

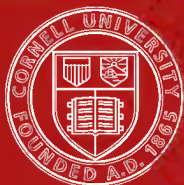
THE PAGEANT OF  
ENGLISH POETRY

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THE PAGEANT OF  
ENGLISH POETRY



Milton  
1608-1074



Shelley  
1797-1855



Shakespeare  
1564-1616



Keats  
1795-1821



Shelley  
1797-1855







# THE PAGEANT OF ENGLISH POETRY

BEING 1150 POEMS AND EXTRACTS  
BY 300 AUTHORS

'Poets by death are conquered, but the wit  
Of poets triumphs over it'—COWLEY.



HUMPHREY MILFORD  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS  
LONDON, NEW YORK, TORONTO, MELBOURNE  
AND BOMBAY

1916



## NOTE

THE 1150 poems and extracts, by more than 300 authors, contained in this volume cover a period of upwards of 600 years. The poets appear in alphabetical order, and their poems are also printed in the alphabetical order of first lines. This plan has been adopted for convenience in reference, and it has been departed from only in the case of Shakespeare, the extracts from whose works follow the commonly accepted order of the plays, the selected sonnets, however, being given in the alphabetical order of their first lines.

At the beginning of the book there is a list of authors, giving their full names and the dates of birth and death where known; and at the end are two indexes, one of first lines of the poems, in which the authors are indicated, and the other a subject index, in which an attempt has been made at classification.

It would have been impossible to print so many poems in one volume if all had been given in full, and very long ballads are necessarily omitted. Only such headings as have been adopted by the poets themselves have been given as a rule. While some pieces have been included because they are familiar or enshrine some time-honoured phrase or thought, or for their author's sake, the volume, large as it is, contains comparatively little verse of poor quality, and not a little that is unfamiliar to the general reader.

Many anthologies have been collated, and the compiler gladly acknowledges his indebtedness to earlier gleaners in the field, but he has exercised his own judgement, and he has not been content without consulting the earliest or most authentic sources for the words. As regards accuracy of

text, it is claimed that this volume is superior to any collection made on a similar scale.

The work of living poets has been excluded, but the volume includes a number of copyright poems which are given by the kind permission of the following : Messrs. George Bell & Sons (Coventry Patmore); Messrs. Chatto & Windus (George MacDonald, A. W. E. O'Shaughnessy, and R. L. Stevenson); Mr. Bertram Dobell (James Thomson and T. Traherne); The Houghton Mifflin Company (O. W. Holmes, H. W. Longfellow, and J. G. Whittier); Messrs. Longmans & Company (W. E. H. Lecky); Messrs. Macmillan & Company (T. E. Brown); and Mr. Nutt (W. E. Henley).

R. M. LEONARD.

*March, 1909.*

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# THE PAGEANT

OF

## ENGLISH POETRY



### 1. IT MUST BE SO—PLATO, THOU REASON'ST WELL

IT must be so—Plato, thou reason'st well,  
Else whence this pleasing hope, this fond desire,  
This longing after immortality ?  
Or whence this secret dread and inward horror  
Of falling into nought ? Why shrinks the soul  
Back on herself and startles at destruction ?  
—'Tis the Divinity that stirs within us,  
'Tis Heaven itself that points out an hereafter,  
And intimates Eternity to man.  
Eternity !—thou pleasing-dreadful thought !  
Through what variety of untried being—  
Through what new scenes and changes must we pass !  
The wide, the unbounded prospect lies before me ;  
But shadows, clouds, and darkness rest upon it.  
Here will I hold :—If there 's a Power above us  
(And that there is, all nature cries aloud  
Through all her works), he must delight in Virtue ;  
And that which he delights in must be happy :  
But—when ?—or where ?—*This world was made for Caesar.*  
I'm weary of conjectures :—*This must end them.*

*[Laying his hand on his sword.]*

Thus I am doubly armed ; my death and life,  
My bane and antidote are both before me.  
This in a moment brings me to an end,  
But this informs me I shall never die.  
The soul, secured in her existence, smiles  
At the drawn dagger and defies its point.  
The stars shall fade away, the sun himself  
Grow dim with age, and nature sink in years ;  
But thou shalt flourish in immortal youth,  
Unhurt amidst the war of elements,  
The wrecks of matter, and the crush of worlds.

J. ADDISON (*Cato*).

## 2. THE SPACIOUS FIRMAMENT ON HIGH

THE spacious firmament on high,  
 With all the blue ethereal sky,  
 And spangled heavens, a shining  
 frame,  
 Their great Original proclaim.  
 The unwearied sun, from day to  
 day,  
 Does his Creator's power display ;  
 And publishes to every land  
 The work of an Almighty hand.

Soon as the evening shades prevail,  
 The moon takes up the wondrous  
 tale ;  
 And nightly to the listening earth,  
 Repeats the story of her birth ;

Whilst all the stars that round  
 her burn,  
 And all the planets in their turn,  
 Confirm the tidings as they roll,  
 And spread the truth from pole  
 to pole.

What though in solemn silence all  
 Move round the dark terrestrial  
 ball ;

What though nor real voice nor  
 sound

Amid their radiant orbs be found?  
 In reason's ear they all rejoice,  
 And utter forth a glorious voice ;  
 For ever singing, as they shine,  
 ' The hand that made us is divine.'

J. ADDISON.

## 3. HE MANY A CREATURE DID ANATOMIZE

HE many a creature did anatomize,  
 Almost unpeopling water, air, and land ;  
 Beasts, fishes, birds, snails, caterpillars, flies,  
 Were laid full low by his relentless hand,  
 That oft with gory crimson was distained :  
 He many a dog destroyed, and many a cat  
 Of fleas his bed, of frogs the marshes drained,  
 Could tellen if a mite were lean or fat,  
 And read a lecture o'er the entrails of a gnat.

M. AKENSIDE (*The Virtuoso*).

## 4. THE HAND OF NATURE

THE hand of Nature on peculiar minds  
 Imprints a different bias, and to each  
 Decrees its province in the common toil.  
 . . . Some within a finer mould  
 She wrought and tempered with a purer flame.  
 To these the Sire Omnipotent unfolds  
 The world's harmonious volume, there to read  
 The transcript of Himself. On every part  
 They trace the bright impressions of His hand ;  
 In earth, or air, the meadow's purple stores,  
 The moon's mild radiance, or the virgin's form  
 Blooming with rosy smiles, they see portrayed  
 That uncreated Beauty which delights  
 The Mind supreme. They also feel her charms,  
 Enamoured : they partake the eternal joy.

M. AKENSIDE (*The Pleasures of the Imagination*).



## 5. FROM 'LINES WRITTEN BY A DEATH-BED'

BUT ah, though peace indeed is here,  
 And ease from shame, and rest from fear;  
 Though nothing can disarm now  
 The smoothness of that limpid brow;  
 Yet is a calm like this, in truth,  
 The crowning end of life and youth?  
 And when this boon rewards the dead,  
 Are all debts paid, has all been said?  
 And is the heart of youth so light,  
 Its step so firm, its eye so bright,  
 Because on its hot brow there blows  
 A wind of promise and repose  
 From the far grave, to which it goes?

Because it has the hope to come,  
 One day, to harbour in the tomb?  
 Ah no, the bliss youth dreams is one  
 For daylight, for the cheerful sun,  
 For feeling nerves and living breath—  
 Youth dreams a bliss on this side death.  
 It dreams a rest, if not more deep,  
 More grateful than this marble sleep.  
 It hears a voice within it tell—  
 'Calm's not life's crown, though calm is well.'  
 'Tis all perhaps which man acquires:  
 But 'tis not what our youth desires.  
 M. ARNOLD.

## 6. WORDSWORTH AND GOETHE

BUT Wordsworth's eyes avert their ken  
 From half of human fate;  
 And Goethe's course few sons of men  
 May think to emulate.  
 For he pursued a lonely road,  
 His eyes on Nature's plan;  
 Neither made man too much a God,  
 Nor God too much a man.  
 Strong was he, with a spirit free  
 From mists, and sane, and clear;  
 Clearer, how much! than ours:  
 yet we  
 Have a worse course to steer.

For though his manhood bore the blast  
 Of a tremendous time,  
 Yet in a tranquil world was passed  
 His tenderer youthful prime.  
 But we, brought forth and reared  
 in hours  
 Of change, alarm, surprise—  
 What shelter to grow ripe is ours?  
 What leisure to grow wise?  
 . . . . .  
 Too fast we live, too much are tried,  
 Too harassed, to attain  
 Wordsworth's sweet calm, or  
 Goethe's wide  
 And luminous view to gain.

M. ARNOLD (*Stanzas in memory of the Author of 'Obermann'*).

## 7. CALM SOUL OF ALL THINGS

CALM Soul of all things! make it mine  
 To feel, amid the city's jar,  
 That there abides a peace of thine,  
 Man did not make, and cannot mar.

The will to neither strive nor cry,  
 The power to feel with others give.  
 Calm, calm me more; nor let me die  
 Before I have begun to live.

M. ARNOLD (*Lines written in Kensington Gardens*).

## 8. THE FORSAKEN MERMAN

COME, dear children, let us away;  
Down and away below.  
Now my brothers call from the bay;  
Now the great winds shorewards  
blow;

Now the salt tides seawards flow;  
Now the wild white horses play,  
Champ and chafe and toss in the  
spray.

Children dear, let us away.  
This way, this way.

Call her once before you go.  
Call once yet.

In a voice that she will know:  
'Margaret! Margaret!'

Children's voices should be dear  
(Call once more) to a mother's ear:  
Children's voices, wild with pain.  
Surely she will come again.

Call her once and come away.  
This way, this way.

'Mother dear, we cannot stay.'  
The wild white horses foam and  
fret.

Margaret! Margaret!

Come, dear children, come away  
down.

Call no more.

One last look at the white-walled  
town,

And the little grey church on the  
windy shore.

Then come down.

She will not come though you call  
all day.

Come away, come away.

Children dear, was it yesterday  
We heard the sweet bells over the  
bay?

In the caverns where we lay,  
Through the surf and through the  
swell,

The far-off sound of a silver bell?  
Sand-strewn caverns, cool and  
deep,

Where the winds are all asleep;  
Where the spent lights quiver and  
gleam;

Where the salt weed sways in the  
stream;

Where the sea-beasts ranged all  
round

Feed in the ooze of their pasture-  
ground;

Where the sea-snakes coil and  
twine,

Dry their mail and bask in the  
brine;

Where great whales come sailing  
by,

Sail and sail, with unshut eye,  
Round the world for ever and ay?

When did music come this way?  
Children dear, was it yesterday?

Children dear, was it yesterday  
(Call yet once) that she went  
away?

Once she sate with you and me,  
On a red gold throne in the heart  
of the sea,

And the youngest sate on her knee.  
She combed its bright hair, and she  
tended it well,

When down swung the sound of  
the far-off hell.

She sighed, she looked up through  
the clear green sea.

She said: 'I must go, for my kins-  
folk pray

In the little grey church on the  
shore to-day.

'Twill be Easter-time in the  
world—ah me!

And I lose my poor soul, Merman,  
here with thee.'

I said: 'Go up, dear heart,  
through the waves.

Say thy prayer, and come back to  
the kind sea-caves.'

She smiled, she went up through  
the surf in the bay.

Children dear, was it yesterday?

Children dear, were we long  
 alone ?  
 'The sea grows stormy, the little  
 ones moan.  
 Long prayers,' I said, 'in the world  
 they say.  
 Come,' I said, and we rose through  
 the surf in the bay.  
 We went up the beach, by the  
 sandy down  
 Where the sea-stocks bloom, to the  
 white-walled town.  
 Through the narrow paved streets,  
 where all was still,  
 To the little grey church on the  
 windy hill.  
 From the church came a murmur  
 of folk at their prayers,  
 But we stood without in the cold  
 blowing airs.  
 We climbed on the graves, on the  
 stones, worn with rains,  
 And we gazed up the aisle through  
 the small leaded panes.  
 She sate by the pillar; we saw  
 her clear :  
 'Margaret, hist ! come quick, we  
 are here  
 Dear heart,' I said, 'we are long  
 alone.  
 The sea grows stormy, the little  
 ones moan.'  
 But, ah, she gave me never a look,  
 For her eyes were sealed to the  
 holy book.  
 Loud prays the priest; shut stands  
 the door.  
 Come away, children, call no  
 more.  
 Come away, come down, call no  
 more.  
 Down, down, down,  
 Down to the depths of the sea.  
 She sits at her wheel in the hum-  
 ming town,  
 Singing most joyfully.  
 Hark, what she sings : 'O joy,  
 O joy,

For the humming street, and the  
 child with its toy.  
 For the priest, and the bell, and  
 the holy well.  
 For the wheel where I spun,  
 And the blessed light of the sun.'  
 And so she sings her fill,  
 Singing most joyfully,  
 Till the shuttle falls from her hand,  
 And the whizzing wheel stands  
 still.  
 She steals to the window, and looks  
 at the sand ;  
 And over the sand at the sea ;  
 And her eyes are set in a stare ;  
 And anon there breaks a sigh,  
 And anon there drops a tear,  
 From a sorrow-clouded eye,  
 And a heart sorrow-laden,  
 A long, long sigh,  
 For the cold strange eyes of a little  
 Mermaid,  
 And the gleam of her golden hair.  
 Come away, away, children.  
 Come, children, come down.  
 The hoarse wind blows colder ;  
 Lights shine in the town.  
 She will start from her slumber  
 When gusts shake the door ;  
 She will hear the winds howling,  
 Will hear the waves roar.  
 We shall see, while above us  
 The waves roar and whirl,  
 A ceiling of amber,  
 A pavement of pearl.  
 Singing, 'Here came a mortal,  
 But faithless was she.  
 And alone dwell for ever  
 The kings of the sea.'  
 But, children, at midnight,  
 When soft the winds blow ;  
 When clear falls the moonlight ;  
 When spring-tides are low :  
 When sweet airs come seaward  
 From heaths starred with broom ;  
 And high rocks throw mildly  
 On the blanched sands a gloom :  
 Up the still, glistening beaches,

Up the creeks we will hie ;  
 Over banks of bright seaweed  
 The ebb-tide leaves dry.  
 We will gaze, from the sand-hills,  
 At the white, sleeping town ;  
 At the church on the hill-side—

And then come back down.  
 Singing, 'There dwells a loved one,  
 But cruel is she.  
 She left lonely for ever  
 The kings of the sea.'

M. ARNOLD.

### 9. 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 bewildered  
 brain  
 That wild, unquenched, 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 racked heart and brain  
 Afford no balm ?  
 Dost thou to-night behold  
 Here, through the moonlight on  
 this English grass,

The unfriendly palace in the Thra-  
 cian wild ?  
 Dost thou again peruse  
 With hot cheeks and seared 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 Cephis-  
 sian vale ?  
 Listen, Eugenia—  
 How thick the bursts come  
 crowding through the leaves !  
 Again—thou hearest !  
 Eternal Passion !  
 Eternal Pain !

M. ARNOLD.

### 10. FROM 'EMPEDOCLES ON ETNA'

LIKE us the lightning fires  
 Love to have scope and play.  
 The stream, like us, desires  
 An unimpeded way.  
 Like us, the Libyan wind delights  
 to roam at large.

Streams will not curb their  
 pride  
 The just man not to entomb,  
 Nor lightnings go aside  
 To leave his virtues room,  
 Nor is the wind less rough that  
 blows a good man's barge.

Nature, with equal mind,  
 Sees all her sons at play,  
 Sees man control the wind,  
 The wind sweep man away ;  
 Allows the proudly-riding and the  
 foundering bark.

Is it so small a thing  
 To have enjoyed the sun,  
 To have lived light in the spring,  
 To have loved, to have thought,  
 to have done ;  
 To have advanced true friends, and  
 beat down baffling foes ;

That we must feign a bliss  
Of doubtful future date,  
And while we dream on this  
Lose all our present state,  
And relegate to worlds yet distant  
our repose ?

Not much, I know, you prize  
What pleasures may be had,  
Who look on life with eyes  
Estranged, like mine, and  
sad:  
And yet the village churl feels the  
truth more than you,

Who's loath to leave this life  
Which to him little yields:  
His hard-tasked sunburnt wife,  
His often-laboured fields;  
The boors with whom he talked,  
the country spots he knew.

I say, Fear not! life still  
Leaves human effort scope!  
But, since life teems with ill,  
Nurse no extravagant hope.  
Because thou must not dream, thou  
need'st not then despair!

M. ARNOLD.

## 11. 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 foiled searching of mortality:  
And thou, who didst the stars and sunbeams know,  
Self-schooled, self-scanned, self-honoured, self-secure,  
Didst walk on Earth unguessed 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.

## 12. 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 bathed 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 yearn-  
ing,  
And now peace laps her round.  
Her cabined, ample Spirit,  
It fluttered and failed for breath.  
To-night it doth inherit  
The vasty Hall of Death.

M. ARNOLD.

## 13. FROM 'THE SCHOLAR GIPSY'

THOU waitest for the spark from heaven! and we,  
 Light half-believers of our casual creeds,  
 Who never deeply felt, nor clearly willed,  
 Whose insight never has borne fruit in deeds,  
 Whose vague resolves never have been fulfilled;  
 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?

Still nursing the unconquerable hope,  
 Still clutching the inviolable shade,  
 With a free onward impulse brushing through,  
 By night, the silvered 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 unfixed 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-haired 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 steeped in brine;  
 And knew the intruders on his ancient home,

The young light-hearted masters of the waves;  
 And snatched 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.

## 14. ON THE RHINE

VAIN is the effort to forget.  
 Some day I shall be cold, I know,  
 As is the eternal moon-lit snow  
 Of the high Alps, to which I go:  
 But ah, not yet! not yet!

Vain is the agony of grief.  
 'Tis true, indeed, an iron knot  
 Ties straitly up from mine thy  
 lot,

And were it snapt—thou lov'st me  
 not!

But is despair relief?

Awhile let me with thought have  
 done;

And as this brimmed unwrinkled  
 Rhine

And that far purple mountain line  
 Lie sweetly in the look divine  
 Of the slow-sinking sun;

So let me lie, and calm as they  
 Let beam upon my inward view  
 Those eyes of deep, soft, lucent  
 hue—

Eyes too expressive to be blue,  
 Too lovely to be grey.

Ah Quiet, all things feel thy balm!  
 Those blue hills too, this river's  
 flow,

Were restless once, but long ago.  
 Tamed is their turbulent youthful  
 glow:

Their joy is in their calm.

M. ARNOLD.

## 15. 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  
 willed

Can be through hours of gloom  
 fulfilled.

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.

M. ARNOLD.

## 16. THE SONG OF CALLICLES

—WHAT Forms are these coming  
 So white through the gloom?  
 What garments out-glistening  
 The gold-flowered 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 (*Empedocles on Etna*).

### 17. I'LL LOVE NO MORE

I LOVED thee once, I'll love no more,  
Thine be the grief as is the blame;  
Thou art not what thou wast before,  
What reason I should be the same?  
He that can love unloved again,  
Hath better store of love than brain:  
God send me love my debts to pay,  
While unthrifts fool their love away!  
Nothing could have my love o'erthrown,  
If thou hadst still continued mine;  
Yea, if thou hadst remained thy own,  
I might perchance have yet been thine.  
But thou thy freedom didst recall,  
That, if thou might, elsewhere intrall:  
And then how could I but disdain  
A captive's captive to remain?     SIR R. AYTON.

### 18. FROM 'THE WIDOW OF GLENCOE'

Do not lift him from the bracken,  
Leave him lying where he  
fell—

Better bier ye cannot fashion:  
None beseems him half so well  
As the bare and broken heather,  
And the hard and trampled sod,  
Whence his angry soul ascended  
To the judgement-seat of God!  
Winding-sheet we cannot give  
him—

Seek no mantle for the dead,  
Save the cold and spotless covering  
Showered from heaven upon his  
head.

Leave his broadsword as we found  
it,

Bent and broken with the blow,  
That, before he died, avenged him  
On the foremost of the foe.

Leave the blood upon his bosom—  
Wash not off that sacred stain;

Let it stiffen on the tartan,  
Let his wounds unclosed remain,  
Till the day when he shall show  
them

At the throne of God on high,  
When the murderer and the mur-  
dered

Meet before their Judge's eye.  
W. E. AYTOUN.



19. DEAD DUNDEE

SOUND the fife, and cry the slogan—

Let the pibroch shake the air  
With its wild triumphal music,  
Worthy of the freight we bear.  
Let the ancient hills of Scotland  
Hear once more the battle song  
Swell within their glens and valleys

As the clansmen march along !  
Never from the field of combat,  
Never from the deadly fray,  
Was a nobler trophy carried  
Than we bring with us to-day ;  
Never, since the valiant Douglas  
On his dauntless bosom bore  
Good King Robert's heart—the  
priceless—  
To our dear Redeemer's shore !

Lo ! we bring with us the hero—  
Lo ! we bring the conquering  
Graeme,

Crowned as but becomes a victor  
From the altar of his fame ;  
Fresh and bleeding from the battle  
Whence his spirit took its flight,  
Midst the crashing charge of  
squadrons,

And the thunder of the fight !  
Strike, I say, the notes of triumph,  
As we march o'er moor and lea !  
Is there any here will venture  
To bewail our dead Dundee ?  
Let the widows of the traitors  
Weep until their eyes are dim !  
Wail ye may full well for  
Scotland—

Let none dare to mourn for him !

W. E. AYTOUN (*The Burial March of Dundee*).

20. THE REFUSAL OF CHARON

WHY look the distant mountains  
So gloomy and so drear ?  
Are rain-clouds passing o'er them,  
Or is the tempest near ?  
No shadow of the tempest  
Is there, nor wind nor rain—  
'Tis Charon that is passing by,  
With all his gloomy train.

The young men march before him,  
In all their strength and  
pride ;  
The tender little infants,  
They totter by his side ;  
The old men walk behind him,  
And earnestly they pray—  
Both old and young imploring  
him  
To grant some brief delay.

' O Charon ! halt, we pray thee,  
Beside some little town,  
Or near some sparkling fountain,  
Where the waters wimple down !  
The old will drink and be refreshed,  
The young the disc will fling,  
And the tender little children  
Pluck flowers beside the spring.'

' I will not stay my journey,  
Nor halt by any town,  
Near any sparkling fountain,  
Where the waters wimple down :  
The mothers coming to the well  
Would know the babes they  
bore,  
The wives would clasp their hus-  
bands,  
Nor could I part them more.'

W. E. AYTOUN.

## 21. THE WORLD 'S A BUBBLE

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.

FRANCIS BACON, LORD VERULAM.

## 22. LUCIFER'S SONG

THOU hast more music in thy  
voice

Than to the spheres is given,  
And more temptations on thy lips  
Than lost the angels Heaven.

Thou hast more brightness in thine  
eyes

Than all the stars which burn,  
More dazzling art thou than the  
throne

We fallen dared to spurn.

Go, search through Heaven—the  
sweetest smile

That lightens there is thine ;  
And through hell's burning dark-  
ness breaks

No frown so fell as mine.

One smile—'twill light, one tear—  
'twill cool ;

These will be more to me  
Than all the wealth of all the worlds,

Or boundless power could be.

P. J. BAILEY (*Festus*).

## 23. WE LIVE IN DEEDS

WE live in deeds, not years ; in thoughts, not breaths ;  
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.

We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives  
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

Where imperfection ceaseth, heaven begins.

P. J. BAILEY (*Festus*).

## 24. FISHERMAN'S SONG

No fish stir in our heaving net,  
And the sky is dark and the night is wet ;

And we must ply the lusty oar,  
For the tide is ebbing from the shore ;

And sad are they whose faggots burn,  
So kindly stored for our return.

Our boat is small, and the tempest raves,  
And nought is heard but the lashing waves

And the sullen roar of the angry sea  
And the wild winds piping drearily ;

Yet sea and tempest rise in vain,  
We'll bless our blazing hearths again.

Push bravely, mates! Our guiding star  
 Now from its towerlet streameth far,  
 And now along the nearing strand,  
 See, swiftly moves yon flaming brand.  
 Before the midnight watch be past  
 We'll quaff our bowl and mock the blast.

JOANNA BAILLIE.

25. LIFE! I KNOW NOT WHAT THOU ART

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.

26. SPRING

SWEET daughter of a rough and  
 stormy sire,  
 Hoar Winter's blooming child,  
 delightful Spring!  
 Whose unshorn locks with leaves  
 And swelling buds are  
 crowned;  
 From the green islands of eternal  
 youth  
 (Crowned with fresh blooms, and  
 ever-springing shade)  
 Turn, hither turn thy step,  
 O thou, whose powerful voice,  
 More sweet than softest touch of  
 Doric reed,  
 Or Lydian flute, can soothe the  
 madding winds,  
 And through the stormy deep  
 Breathe thy own tender calm.

Sweet is thy reign, but short: the  
 red dogstar  
 Shall scorch thy tresses; and the  
 mower's scythe  
 Thy greens, thy flowerets all,  
 Remorseless shall destroy.

Reluctant shall I bid thee then  
 farewell;  
 For O! not all that Autumn's lap  
 contains,  
 Nor Summer's ruddiest fruits,  
 Can aught for thee atone,

Fair Spring! whose simplest pro-  
 mise more delights,  
 Than all their largest wealth, and  
 through the heart  
 Each joy and new-born hope  
 With softest influence breathes.

A. L. BARBAULD (*Ode to Spring*).

## 27. AS I LAYE A-THYNKYNGE

*The last lines of 'Thomas Ingoldsby'*

- As I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 Merrie sang the Birde as she sat upon the spraye ;  
 There came a noble Knyghte,  
 With his hauberke shynyng brighte,  
 And his gallant heart was lyghte,  
 Free and gaye ;  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, he rode upon his waye.
- As I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 Sadly sang the Birde as she sat upon the tree !  
 There seemed a crimson plain,  
 Where a gallant Knyghte lay slayne,  
 And a steed with broken rein  
 Ran free,  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, most pitiful to see !
- As I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 Merrie sang the Birde as she sat upon the boughe ;  
 A lovely Mayde came bye,  
 And a gentil youthe was nyghe,  
 And he breathed many a syghe  
 And a vowe ;  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, her hearte was gladsome now.
- As I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 Sadly sang the Birde as she sat upon the thorne ;  
 No more a youth was there,  
 But a Maiden rent her haire,  
 And cried in sad despaire  
 ' That I was borne !'  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, she perished forlorne.
- As I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 Sweetly sang the Birde as she sat upon the briar ;  
 There came a lovely Childe,  
 And his face was meek and mild,  
 Yet joyously he smiled  
 On his sire ;  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, a Cherub mote admire.
- But I laye a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng, a-thynkyng,  
 And sadly sang the Birde as it perched upon a bier ;  
 That joyous smile was gone,  
 And the face was white and wan,  
 As the downe upon the Swan  
 Doth appear,  
 As I laye a-thynkyng—oh ! bitter flowed the tear !

As I laye a-thynkyng, the golden sun was sinking,  
 O merrie sang that Birde as it glittered on her breast  
     With a thousand glorious dyes,  
     While, soaring to the skies,  
     'Mid the stars she seemed to rise,  
     As to her nest ;  
 As I laye a-thynkyng, her meaning was exprest :—  
     'Follow, follow me away,  
     It boots not to delay',—  
     'Twas so she seemed to saye,  
     'HERE IS REST !'

R. H. BARHAM.

### 28. AULD ROBIN GRAY

WHEN the sheep are in the fauld, when the cows come hame,  
 And a' the weary warld to quiet rest are gane,  
 The woes of my heart fa' in showers frae my ee  
 Unkenned by my gudeman, who soundly sleeps by me.

Young Jamie loo'd me weel, and sought me for his bride ;  
 But saving ae crown-piece he'd naething else beside.  
 To make the crown a pound, my Jamie gaed to sea ;  
 And the crown and the pound, oh ! they were baith for me !

Before he had been gane a twelvemonth and a day,  
 My father brak his arm, our cow was stown away ;  
 My mother she fell sick—my Jamie was at sea—  
 And Auld Robin Gray, oh ! he came a-courting me.

My father cou'dna work—my mother cou'dna spin ;  
 I toiled day and night, but their bread I cou'dna win,  
 Auld Rob maintained them baith, and wi' tears in his ee  
 Said, 'Jenny, oh ! for their sakes, will you marry me ?'

My heart it said na, and I looked for Jamie back ;  
 But hard blew the winds, and his ship was a wrack ;  
 His ship it was a wrack ! Why didna Jenny dee ?  
 Or, wherefore am I spared to cry out, Woe is me ?

My father argued sair—my mother didna speak,  
 But she looked in my face till my heart was like to break ;  
 They gied him my hand, but my heart was in the sea ;  
 And so Auld Robin Gray, he was gudeman to me.

I hadna been his wife a week but only four,  
 When mournfu' as I sat on the stane at my door,  
 I saw my Jamie's ghaist—I con'dna think it he,  
 Till he said : 'I'm come hame, my love, to marry thee !'

Oh sair, sair did we greet, and mickle say of a'.  
 Ae kiss we took, nae mair—I bad him gang awa.  
 I wish that I were dead, but I'm no like to dee;  
 For O, I am but young to cry out, Woe is me!

I gang like a ghaist, and I carena much to spin;  
 I darena think o' Jamie, for that wad be a sin.  
 But I will do my best a gude wife ay to be,  
 For auld Robin Gray, oh! he is sae kind to me.

ANNE, LADY BARNARD.

## 29. THE PLAINT OF THE NIGHTINGALE

As it fell upon a day  
 In the merry month of May,  
 Sitting in a pleasant shade  
 Which a grove of myrtles  
 made,  
 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,  
 Leaned her breast up-till 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 my own.  
 —Ah, thought I, thou mourn'st  
 in vain,

None takes pity on thy pain:  
 Senseless trees, they cannot hear  
 thee,  
 Ruthless bears, they will not  
 cheer thee;  
 King Pandion, he is dead,  
 All thy friends are lapped in  
 lead:  
 All thy fellow birds do sing  
 Careless of thy sorrowing:  
 Whilst as fickle fortune smiled,  
 Thou and I were both beguiled.  
 Every one that flatters thee,  
 Is no friend in misery.  
 Words are easy, like the wind:  
 Faithful friends are hard to  
 find.  
 Every man will be thy friend,  
 Whilst thou hast wherewith to  
 spend;  
 But if store of crowns be scant,  
 No man will supply thy want.  
 R. BARNEFIELD.

## 30. 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 gaît,  
 An' pretty feäces' 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 daughters at the door;  
You'd cry to bachelors at  
hwome—  
'Here, come: 'ithin an hour  
You'll vind ten maïdens to your  
mind,  
In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

An' if you look'd 'ithin their door,  
To zee em in their pleâce,  
A-doèn housework up avore

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 wive  
In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

As I upon my road did pass  
A school-house back in Maÿ,  
There out upon the beäten grass  
Wer maïdens at their play;  
An' as the pretty souls did tweil  
An' smile, I cried, 'The flow'r  
O' beauty, then, is still in bud  
In Blackmwore by the Stour.'

W. BARNES.

### 31. THE MOTHERLESS CHILD

THE zun'd a-zet backt'othernight,  
But in the zettèn pleâce  
The clouds, a-redden'd by his  
light,

Still glow'd avore my feâce.  
An' I've a-lost my Meäry's smile,  
I thought; butstill I have her chile  
Zoo like her, that my eyes can  
treáce

The mother's in her daughter's  
feâce.

O little feâce so near to me,  
An' like thy mother's gone; why  
need I zay,  
Sweet night cloud, wi' the glow o'  
my lost day,  
Thy looks be always dear to me!

The zun'd a-zet another night;  
But, by the moon on high,  
He still did zend us back his light  
Below a cwolder sky.

My Meäry's in a better land  
I thought, but still her chile's at  
hand,

An' in her chile she'll zend me on  
Her love, though she herself's  
a-gone.

O little chile so near to me,  
An' like thy mother gone; why  
need I zay,  
Sweet moon, the messenger vrom  
my lost day,  
Thy looks be always dear to  
me.

W. BARNES.

### 32. AN EPITAPH

RENOWNÈD Spenser, lie a thought more nigh  
To learnèd Chaucer; and rare Beaumont, lie  
A little nearer Spenser; to make room  
For Shakespeare in your three-fold four-fold tomb.  
To lodge all four in one bed make a shift  
Until Doomsday; for hardly will a fifth,  
Betwixt this day and that, by fates be slain,  
For whom your curtains may be drawn again.

If your precedency in death do bar  
 A fourth place in your sacred sepulchre,  
 Under this sacred marble of thine own,  
 Sleep, rare tragedian, Shakespeare, sleep alone :  
 Thy unmolested peace, in an unshared cave,  
 Possess as lord, not tenant, of thy grave ;  
 That unto us and others it may be  
 Honour hereafter to be laid by thee.

W. BASSE.

## 33. THE PREACHER

STILL thinking I had little time to live,  
 My fervent heart to win men's souls did strive ;  
 I preached as never sure to preach again,  
 And as a dying man to dying men.

Though God be free, He works by instruments,  
 And wisely fitteth them to His intents.  
 A proud unhumbled preacher is unmeet  
 To lay proud sinners humbled at Christ's feet ;  
 So are the blind to tell men what God saith,  
 And faithless men to propagate the faith :  
 The dead are unfit means to raise the dead,  
 And enemies to give the children bread ;  
 And utter strangers to the life to come  
 Are not the best conductors to our home.  
 They that yet never learned to live and die,  
 Will scarcely teach it others feelingly.

R. BAXTER.

## 34. AT THE CLOSE OF THE DAY

At the close of the day, when the hamlet is still,  
 And mortals the sweets of forgetfulness prove,  
 When nought but the torrent is heard on the hill,  
 And nought but the nightingale's song in the grove :  
 'Twas thus, by the cave of the mountain afar,  
 While his harp rung symphonious, a hermit began ;  
 No more with himself or with nature at war,  
 He thought as a sage, though he felt as a man.

' 'Tis night, and the landscape is lovely no more :  
 I mourn, but, ye woodlands, I mourn not for you ;  
 For morn is approaching, your charms to restore,  
 Perfumed with fresh fragrance, and glittering with dew ;  
 Nor yet for the ravage of winter I mourn ;  
 Kind Nature the embryo blossoms will save :  
 But when shall spring visit the mouldering urn—  
 Or when shall it dawn on the night of the grave ?'

J. BEATTIE (*The Hermit*).



## 35. BUT WHO THE MELODIES OF MORN CAN TELL ?

BUT who the melodies of morn can tell—  
 The wild brook babbling down the mountain side ;  
 The lowing herd, the sheepfold's simple bell ;  
 The pipe of early shepherd dim descried  
 In the lone valley ; echoing far and wide  
 The clamorous horn along the cliffs above ;  
 The hollow murmur of the ocean-tide ;  
 The hum of bees, the linnet's lay of love,  
 And the full choir that wakes the universal grove ?

The cottage curs at early pilgrim bark ;  
 Crowned with her pail the tripping milkmaid sings ;  
 The whistling ploughman stalks afield ; and, hark !  
 Down the rough slope the ponderous wagon rings ;  
 Thro' rustling corn the hare astonished springs ;  
 Slow tolls the village clock the drowsy hour ;  
 The partridge bursts away on whirring wings ;  
 Deep mourns the turtle in sequestered bower,  
 And shrill lark carols from her aerial tour.

J. BEATTIE (*The Minstrel*).

## 36. THE TOMBS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

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

F. BEAUMONT.

## 37. AT THE MERMAID

WHAT things have we seen  
 Done at the Mermaid ! heard words that have been  
 So nimble, and so full of subtle flame,  
 As if that every one from whence they came  
 Had meant to put his whole wit in a jest,

And had resolved to live a fool the rest  
 Of his dull life; then when there hath been thrown  
 Wit able enough to justify the town  
 For three days past; wit that might warrant be  
 For the whole city to talk foolishly  
 Till that were cancelled; and when we were gone,  
 We left an air behind us, which alone  
 Was able to make the two next companies  
 Right witty; though but downright fools, more wise!

F. BEAUMONT (*Letter to Ben Jonson*).

### 38. DRINK AND DROWN SORROW

DRINK to-day, and drown all sorrow,  
 You shall perhaps not do it to-morrow:  
 But, while you have it, use your breath;  
 There is no drinking after death.

Wine works the heart up, wakes the wit,  
 There is no cure 'gainst age but it:  
 It helps the headache, cough, and ptisick,  
 And is for all diseases physick.

Then let us swill, boys, for our health;  
 Who drinks well, loves the commonwealth.  
 And he that will to bed go sober  
 Falls with the leaf, still in October.

F. BEAUMONT AND J. FLETCHER (*The Bloody Brother*).

### 39. LAY A GARLAND ON MY HEARSE

LAY a garland on my hearse  
 Of the dismal yew;  
 Maidens, willow branches bear;  
 Say, I dièd true.

My love was false, but I was firm  
 From my hour of birth.  
 Upon my buried body lie  
 Lightly, gentle earth!

F. BEAUMONT AND J. FLETCHER  
 (*The Maid's Tragedy*).

### 40. TAKE, OH! TAKE THOSE LIPS AWAY

TAKE, oh! take those lips away,  
 That so sweetly were forsworn,  
 And those eyes like break of day,  
 Lights that do mislead the  
 morn!  
 But my kisses bring again,  
 Seals of love, though sealed in  
 vain.

Hide, oh! hide those hills of  
 snow,  
 Which thy frozen bosom bears,  
 On whose tops the pinks that  
 grow  
 Are of those that April wears!  
 But first set my poor heart free,  
 Bound in those icy chains by thee.

F. BEAUMONT AND J. FLETCHER  
 (*The Bloody Brother*).

## 41. ON MY DEAR SON

CAN I, who have for others oft compiled  
 The songs of death, forget my sweetest child,  
 Which, like a flower crushed, with a blast is dead,  
 And ere full time hangs down his smiling head,  
 Expecting with clear hope to live anew,  
 Among the angels fed with heavenly dew ?  
 We have this sign of joy, that many days,  
 While on the earth his struggling spirit stays,  
 The name of Jesus in his mouth contains,  
 His only food, his sleep, his ease from pains.  
 O may that sound be rooted in my mind,  
 Of which in him such strong effect I find.  
 Dear Lord, receive my son, whose winning love  
 To me was like a friendship, far above  
 The course of nature, or his tender age ;  
 Whose looks could all my bitter griefs assuage ;  
 Let his pure soul—ordained seven years to be  
 In that frail body, which was part of me—  
 Remain my pledge in heaven, as sent to show  
 How to this port at every step I go. SIR J. BEAUMONT.

## 42. BAD TIMES

<p>WHY slander we the times ?          What crimes          Have days and years, that we          Thus charge them with iniquity ?          If we would rightly scan,          It's not the times are bad, but man.</p>	<p>If thy desire it be          To see          The times prove good, be thou          But such thyself, and surely know          That all thy days to thee          Shall spite of mischief happy be.          JOSEPH BEAUMONT.</p>
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## 43. IF THOU WILT EASE THINE HEART

<p>IF thou wilt ease thine heart          Of love and all its smart,          Then sleep, dear, sleep ;          And not a sorrow          Hang any tear on your eye-          lashes ;          Lie still and deep,          Sad soul, until the sea-wave          washes          The rim o' the sun to-morrow,          In eastern sky.</p>	<p>But wilt thou cure thine heart          Of love and all its smart,          Then die, dear, die ;          'Tis deeper, sweeter,          Than on a rose-bank to lie          dreaming          With folded eye ;          And there alone, amid the          beaming          Of love's stars, thou'lt meet her          In eastern sky.</p>
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T. L. BEDDOES (*Death's Jest-Book*)

## 44. LOVE IN FANTASTIC TRIUMPH SAT

LOVE in fantastic triumph sat,  
 Whilst bleeding hearts around him flowed :  
 For whom fresh pains he did create,  
 And strange tyrannic power he showed.  
 From thy bright eyes he took his fires,  
 Which round about in sport he hurled ;  
 But 'twas from mine he took desires  
 Enough to undo the amorous world.  
  
 From me he took his sighs and tears,  
 From thee his pride and cruelty ;  
 From me his languishments and fears,  
 And every killing dart from thee.  
 Thus thou and I the God have armed,  
 And set him up a deity,  
 But my poor heart alone is harmed,  
 Whilst thine the victor is, and free.

A. BEHN.

## 45. THE PROSPECT IN AMERICA

THE Muse, disgusted at an age and clime  
 Barren of every glorious theme,  
 In distant lands now waits a better time,  
 Producing subjects worthy fame.

In happy climes, where from the genial sun  
 And virgin earth such scenes ensue,  
 The force of art by nature seems outdone,  
 And fancied beauties by the true :

In happy climes, the seat of innocence,  
 Where nature guides and virtue rules,  
 Where men shall not impose for truth and sense  
 The pedantry of courts and schools :

There shall be sung another golden age,  
 The rise of empire and of arts,  
 The good and great inspiring epic rage,  
 The wisest heads and noblest hearts.

Not such as Europe breeds in her decay ;  
 Such as she bred when fresh and young,  
 When heavenly flame did animate her clay,  
 By future poets shall be sung.

Westward the course of empire takes its way ;  
 The four first acts already past,  
 A fifth shall close the drama with the day ;  
 Time's noblest offspring is the last.

G. BERKELEY (*On the Prospect of planting  
 Arts and Learning in America*).

## 46. I CARE FOR NOBODY, NOT I

THERE was a jolly miller once  
 Lived on the river Dee ;  
 He worked and sang from morn  
 till night,  
 No lark more blithe than he.

And this the burden of his  
 song  
 For ever used to be :—  
 I care for nobody, not I,  
 If no one cares for me.

I. BICKERSTAFFE (*Love in a Village*);

## 47. THE END OF LIFE

SURE the last end  
 Of the good man is peace ! How calm his exit !  
 Night-dews fall not more gently to the ground,  
 Nor weary worn-out winds expire so soft.  
 Behold him ! in the evening tide of life,  
 A life well spent, whose early care it was  
 His riper years should not upbraid his green :  
 By unperceived degrees he wears away ;  
 Yet, like the sun, seems larger at his setting !  
 High in his faith and hopes, look how he reaches  
 After the prize in view ! and, like a bird  
 That's hampered, struggles hard to get away !  
 Whilst the glad gates of sight are wide expanded  
 To let new glories in, the first fair fruits  
 Of the fast-coming harvest.

R. BLAIR (*The Grave*).

## 48. FROM 'AUGURIES OF INNOCENCE'

A ROBIN redbreast in a cage  
 Puts all Heaven in a rage.  
 A dove-house filled with doves  
 and pigeons  
 Shudders Hell through all its  
 regions.  
 A dog starved at his master's gate  
 Predicts the ruin of the state.  
 A horse misused upon the road  
 Calls to Heaven for human blood.  
 Each outcry of the hunted hare  
 A fibre from the brain does tear.  
 A skylark wounded in the wing,  
 A cherubim does cease to sing.  
 The game-cock clipped and armed  
 for fight  
 Does the rising sun affright.  
 Every wolf's and lion's howl  
 Raises from Hell a human soul.

The wild deer, wandering here and  
 there,  
 Keeps the human soul from care.  
 The lamb misused breeds public  
 strife,  
 And yet forgives the butcher's  
 knife.  
 He who shall hurt the little wren  
 Shall never be beloved by men.  
 He who the ox to wrath has  
 moved  
 Shall never be by woman loved.  
 The wanton boy that kills the fly  
 Shall feel the spider's enmity.  
 He who torments the chafer's  
 sprite  
 Weaves a bower in endless night.  
 The caterpillar on the leaf  
 Repeats to thee thy mother's grief.

Kill not the moth nor butterfly, For the last judgement draweth nigh.	He who shall train the horse to war Shall never pass the polar bar. The beggar's dog and widow's cat, Feed them and thou wilt grow fat.
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W. BLAKE.

## 49. THE BUILDING OF JERUSALEM

AND did those feet in ancient time Walk upon England's mountains green ? And was the holy Lamb of God On England's pleasant pastures seen ? And did the Countenance Divine Shine forth upon our clouded hills ? And was Jerusalem builded here Among these dark Satanic Mills ?	Bring me my bow of burning gold ! Bring me my arrows of desire ! Bring me my spear ! O clouds, unfold ! Bring me my chariot of fire ! I will not cease from mental fight, Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand, Till we have built Jerusalem In England's green and pleasant land.
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W. BLAKE (*Milton*).

## 50. A TEAR IS AN INTELLECTUAL THING

BUT vain the sword and vain the bow,  
They never can work War's overthrow.  
The hermit's prayer and the widow's tear  
Alone can free the world from fear.

For a tear is an intellectual thing,  
And a sigh is the sword of an angel king,  
And the bitter groan of the martyr's woe,  
Is an arrow from the Almighty's bow.

W. BLAKE (*The Grey Monk*).

## 51. I TOLD MY LOVE

I TOLD my love, I told my love, I told her all my heart ; Trembling, cold, in ghastly fears, Ah ! she doth depart.	Soon as she was gone from me, A traveller came by, Silently, invisibly— O ! was no deny.
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W. BLAKE.

## 52. THE NEW DISPENSATION

JESUS was sitting in Moses' chair.  
They brought the trembling woman there.  
Moses commands she be stoned to death.  
What was the sound of Jesus' breath ?  
He laid His hand on Moses' law ;  
The ancient Heavens, in silent awe,  
Writ with curses from pole to pole,  
All away began to roll.

W. BLAKE (*The Everlasting Gospel*).

## 53. THE LAMB

LITTLE Lamb, who made thee ?	Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,
Dost thou know who made thee ?	Little Lamb, I'll tell thee :
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed,	He is callèd by thy name,
By the stream and o'er the mead ;	For He calls Himself a Lamb.
Gave thee clothing of delight,	He is meek, and He is mild ;
Softest clothing, woolly, bright ;	He became a little child.
Gave thee such a tender voice,	I a child, and thou a lamb,
Making all the vales rejoice ?	We are callèd by His name.
Little Lamb, who made thee ?	Little Lamb, God bless thee !
Dost thou know who made thee ?	Little Lamb, God bless thee !

W. BLAKE.

## 54. MOCK ON, MOCK ON, VOLTAIRE, ROUSSEAU

Mock on, mock on, Voltaire, Rousseau ;  
 Mock on, mock on ; 'tis all in vain !  
 You throw the sand against the wind,  
 And the wind blows it back again.

And every sand becomes a gem  
 Reflected in the beams divine ;  
 Blown back they blind the mocking eye,  
 But still in Israel's paths they shine.

W. BLAKE.

## 55. THE LITTLE BLACK BOY

My mother bore me in the southern wild,  
 And I am black, but O my soul is white ;  
 White as an angel is the English child,  
 But I am black, as if bereaved of light.

My mother taught me underneath a tree,  
 And, sitting down before the heat of day,  
 She took me on her lap and kissèd me,  
 And, pointing to the east, began to say :

' Look on the rising sun,—there God does live,  
 And gives His light, and gives His heat away ;  
 And flowers and trees and beasts and men receive  
 Comfort in morning, joy in the noonday.

' And we are put on earth a little space,  
 That we may learn to bear the beams of love ;  
 And these black bodies and this sunburnt face  
 Is but a cloud, and like a shady grove.

' For when our souls have learned the heat to bear,  
 The cloud will vanish, we shall hear His voice,  
 Saying: "Come out from the grove, My love and care,  
 And round My golden tent like lambs rejoice."'

Thus did my mother say, and kissèd me ;  
 And thus I say to little English boy.  
 When I from black, and he from white cloud free,  
 And round the tent of God like lambs we joy,

I'll shade him from the heat, till he can bear  
 To lean in joy upon our father's knee ;  
 And then I'll stand and stroke his silver hair,  
 And be like him, and he will then love me.

W. BLAKE.

### 56. TO SPRING

O THOU with dewy locks, who lookest down  
 Through the clear windows of the morning, turn  
 Thine angel eyes upon our western isle,  
 Which in full choir hails thy approach, O Spring !

The hills tell each other, and the list'ning  
 Valleys hear ; all our longing eyes are turned  
 Up to thy bright pavilions : issue forth,  
 And let thy holy feet visit our clime.

Come o'er the eastern hills, and let our winds  
 Kiss thy perfumèd garments ; let us taste  
 Thy morn and evening breath ; scatter thy pearls  
 Upon our love-sick land that mourns for thee.

O deck her forth with thy fair fingers ; pour  
 Thy soft kisses on her bosom ; and put  
 Thy golden crown upon her languished head,  
 Whose modest tresses were bound up for thee.

W. BLAKE.

### 57. 'SONGS OF INNOCENCE'

PIPING down the valleys wild,  
 Piping songs of pleasant glee,  
 On a cloud I saw a child,  
 And he laughing said to me :

'Pipe a song about a Lamb !'  
 So I piped with merry cheer.  
 'Piper, pipe that song again ;'  
 So I piped : he wept to hear.

'Drop thy pipe, thy happy pipe ;  
 Sing thy songs of happy cheer :'  
 So I sang the same again,  
 While he wept with joy to hear.

'Piper, sit thee down and write  
 In a book, that all may read.'  
 So he vanished from my sight,  
 And I plucked a hollow reed,

And I made a rural pen,  
 And I stained the water clear,  
 And I wrote my happy songs  
 Every child may joy to hear.

W. BLAKE.



## 58. TIGER! TIGER! BURNING BRIGHT

TIGER! Tiger! burning bright  
 In the forests of the night,  
 What immortal hand or eye  
 Could frame thy fearful sym-  
 metry?

In what distant deeps or skies  
 Burnt the fire of thine eyes?  
 On what wings dare he aspire?  
 What the hand dare seize the  
 fire?

And what shoulder, and what  
 art,  
 Could twist the sinews of thy  
 heart?  
 And when thy heart began to beat,  
 What dread hand? and what  
 dread feet?

What the hammer? what the  
 chain?  
 In what furnace was thy brain?  
 What the anvil? what dread  
 grasp  
 Dare its deadly terrors clasp?

When the stars threw down their  
 spears,  
 And watered heaven with their  
 tears,  
 Did he smile his work to see?  
 Did he who made the Lamb make  
 thee?

Tiger! Tiger! burning bright  
 In the forests of the night,  
 What immortal hand or eye  
 Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?

W. BLAKE.

## 59. TO THE MUSES

WHETHER on Ida's shady brow,  
 Or in the chambers of the East,  
 The chambers of the sun, that now  
 From ancient melody have  
 ceased;

Whether in Heav'n ye wander  
 fair,  
 Or the green corners of the earth,  
 Or the blue regions of the air  
 Where the melodious winds  
 have birth;

Whether on crystal rocks ye rove,  
 Beneath the bosom of the sea  
 Wandering in many a coral grove,  
 Fair Nine, forsaking Poetry!

How have you left the ancient love  
 That bards of old enjoyed in  
 you!  
 The languid strings do scarcely  
 move!  
 The sound is forced, the notes  
 are few!

W. BLAKE.

## 60. THE VOICE OF THE ANCIENT BARD

YOUTH of delight, come hither,  
 And see the opening morn,  
 Image of truth new-born.  
 Doubt is fled, and clouds of reason,  
 Dark disputes and artful teasing.  
 Folly is an endless maze,  
 Tangled roots perplex her ways.

How many have fallen there!  
 They stumble all night over bones  
 of the dead,  
 And feel they know not what but  
 care,  
 And wish to lead others, when  
 they should be led.

W. BLAKE.

## 61. DOVER CLIFFS

ON these white cliffs, that calm above the flood  
 Uplift their shadowy heads, and at their feet  
 Scarce hear the surge that has for ages beat,  
 Sure many a lonely wanderer has stood ;  
 And while the distant murmur met his ear,  
 And o'er the distant billows the still eve  
 Sailed slow, has thought of all his heart must leave  
 To-morrow ; of the friends he loved most dear ;  
 Of social scenes from which he wept to part.  
 But if, like me, he knew how fruitless all  
 The thoughts that would full fain the past recall ;  
 Soon would he quell the risings of his heart,  
 And brave the wild winds and unhearing tide,  
 The world his country, and his God his guide.

W. L. BOWLES.

## 62. IN THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY

IN the merry month of May,  
 In a morn by break of day,  
 Forth I walked by the wood-side,  
 Whenas May was in his pride :  
 There I spied all alone  
 Phillida and Corydon.  
 Much ado there was, God wot !  
 He would love and she would not.  
 She said, Never man was true ;  
 He said, None was false to you.  
 He said, He had loved her long ;  
 She said, Love should have no  
 wrong.  
 Corydon would kiss her then ;

She said, Maids must kiss no men  
 Till they did for good and all ;  
 Then she made the shepherd call  
 All the heavens to witness truth  
 Never loved a truer youth.  
 Thus with many a pretty oath,  
 Yea and nay, faith and troth,  
 Such as silly shepherds use  
 When they will not love abuse,  
 Love, which had been long de-  
 luded,  
 Was with kisses sweet concluded ;  
 And Phillida with garlands gay  
 Was made the Lady of the May.

N. BRETON.

## 63. FROM 'FAREWELL TO TOWN'

Now next, my gallant youths, farewell ;  
 My lads that oft have cheered my heart !  
 My grief of mind no tongue can tell,  
 To think that I must from you part.  
 I now must leave you all, alas,  
 And live with some old lobcock ass !  
 And now, farewell, thou gallant lute,  
 With instruments of music's sounds :  
 Recorder, cittern, harp and flute,  
 And heavenly descants on sweet grounds ;  
 I now must leave you all, indeed,  
 And make some music on a reed !

And now, farewell, both spear and shield,  
 Caliver, pistol, arquebus ;  
 See, see, what sighs my heart doth yield,  
 To think that I must leave you thus ;  
 And lay aside my rapier blade,  
 And take in hand a ditching spade.

And now, farewell, each dainty dish,  
 With sundry sorts of sugared wine!  
 Farewell, I say, fine flesh and fish,  
 To please this dainty mouth of mine !  
 I now, alas, must leave all these,  
 And make good cheer with bread and cheese.

N. BRETON.

#### 64. LOVE, DRINK, AND DEBT

I HAVE been in love, and in debt, and in drink,  
 This many and many a year,  
 And those are three plagues enough, any should think,  
 For one poor mortal to bear.  
 'Twas love made me fall into drink,  
 And drink made me run into debt,  
 And though I have struggled, and struggled, and strove,  
 I cannot get out of them yet.

There 's nothing but money can cure me,  
 And rid me of all my pain !  
 'Twill pay all my debts,  
 And remove all my lets,  
 And my mistress, that cannot endure me,  
 Will love me, and love me again :  
 Then I'll fall to my loving and drinking amain !

A. BROME.

#### 65. LOVE UNACCOUNTABLE

'TIS not her birth, her friends, nor yet her treasure,  
 Nor do I covet her for sensual pleasure,  
 Nor for that old morality  
 Do I love her, 'cause she loves me.  
 Sure he that loves his lady 'cause she 's fair,  
 Delights his eye, so loves himself, not her.  
 Something there is moves me to love, and I  
 Do know I love, but know not how, nor why.

A. BROME.

## 66. NO COWARD SOUL IS MINE

No coward soul is mine,  
 No trembler in the world's storm-troubled sphere :  
 I see Heaven's glories shine,  
 And faith shines equal, arming me from fear.

O God within my breast,  
 Almighty, ever-present Deity !  
 Life—that in me has rest,  
 As I—undying life—have power in Thee !

Vain are the thousand creeds  
 That move men's hearts : unutterably vain ;  
 Worthless as withered weeds,  
 Or idlest froth amid the boundless main,

To waken doubt in one  
 Holding so fast by thine infinity ;  
 So surely anchored on  
 The steadfast rock of immortality.

With wide-embracing love  
 Thy spirit animates eternal years,  
 Pervades and broods above,  
 Changes, sustains, dissolves, creates, and rears.

Though earth and man were gone,  
 And suns and universes ceased to be,  
 And Thou wert left alone,  
 Every existence would exist in thee.

There is not room for Death  
 Nor atom that his might could render void :  
 Thou—THOU art Being and Breath,  
 And what THOU art may never be destroyed.

E. BRONTË.

## 67. THE OLD STOIC

RICHES I hold in light esteem,  
 And Love I laugh to scorn ;  
 And lust of fame was but a dream,  
 That vanished with the morn :

And if I pray, the only prayer  
 That moves my lips for me  
 Is, 'Leave the heart that now I bear,  
 And give me liberty !'

Yes, as my swift days near their goal,  
 'Tis all that I implore ;  
 In life and death a chainless soul,  
 With courage to endure.

E. BRONTË.

## 68. MY GARDEN

A GARDEN is a lovesome thing, God wot !  
 Rose plot,  
 Fringed pool,  
 Ferned grot—  
 The veriest school  
 Of peace ; and yet the fool  
 Contends that God is not—  
 Not God ! in gardens ! when the eve is cool ?  
 Nay, but I have a sign :  
 'Tis very sure God walks in mine.

T. E. BROWN.

## 69. HE THAT LOOKS STILL ON YOUR EYES

HE that looks still on your eyes,  
 Though the winter have begun  
 To benumb our arteries,  
 Shall not want the summer's sun.

He that still may see your cheeks,  
 Where all rareness still reposes,  
 Is a fool, if e'er he seeks  
 Other lilies, other roses.

He to whom your soft lip yields,  
 And perceives your breath in kissing,  
 All the odours of the fields,  
 Never, never, shall be missing.  
 Welcome, welcome ! do I sing,  
 Far more welcome than the Spring ;  
 He that parteth from you never  
 Shall enjoy a Spring for ever.

W. BROWNE.

## 70. THE SUBJECT OF ALL VERSE

<p>UNDERNEATH this sable hearse          Lies the subject of all verse,          Sidney's sister, Pembroke's          mother,          Death, ere thou hast slain another,          Fair and learned and good as she,          Time shall throw a dart at thee.</p>	<p>Marble piles let no man raise          To her name ; for after days,          Some kind woman, born as          she,          Reading this, like Niobe,          Shall turn marble, and become          Both her mourner and her tomb.</p>
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W. BROWNE.

## 71. VENUS, BY ADONIS' SIDE

VENUS, by Adonis' side,  
Crying kissed, and kissing cried,  
Wrung her hands and tore her hair,  
For Adonis dying there.

'Stay,' quoth she, 'Oh, stay and  
live!

Nature, surely, doth not give  
To the earth her sweetest flowers,  
To be seen but some few hours.'

On his face, still as he bled,  
For each drop a tear she shed,  
Which she kissed or wiped away,  
Else had drowned him where he  
lay.

'Fair Proserpina,' quoth she,  
'Shall not have thee yet from me;  
Nor thy soul, to fly begin;  
While my lips can keep it in!'

Here she ceased again. And some  
Say, Apollo would have come  
To have cured his wounded limb,  
But that she had smothered him.

W. BROWNE.

## 72. BUT THEN THE THRUSHES SANG

BUT then the thrushes sang  
And shook my pulses and the elms' new leaves;  
At which I turned, and held my finger up,  
And bade him mark that, howso'er the world  
Went ill, as he related, certainly  
The thrushes still sang in it. At the word  
His brow would soften,—and he bore with me  
In melancholy patience, not unkind,  
While breaking into voluble ecstasy  
I flattered all the beauteous country round,  
As poets use, the skies, the clouds, the fields,  
The happy violets hiding from the roads  
The primroses run down to, carrying gold;  
The tangled hedgerows, where the cows push out  
Impatient horns and tolerant churning-mouths  
'Twixt dripping ash-boughs,—hedge-rows all alive  
With birds, and gnats, and large white butterflies  
Which look as if the May-flower had caught life  
And palpitated forth upon the wind;  
Hills, vales, woods, netted in a silver mist,  
Farms, granges, doubled up among the hills;  
And cattle grazing in the watered vales,  
And cottage-chimneys smoking from the woods,  
And cottage-gardens smelling everywhere,  
Confused with smell of orchards. 'See,' I said,  
'And see! is God not with us on the earth?  
And shall we put Him down by aught we do?  
Who says there's nothing for the poor and vile  
Save poverty and wickedness? behold!'  
And ankle-deep in English grass I leaped  
And clapped my hands, and called all very fair.

E. B. BROWNING (*Aurora Leigh*).

## 73. THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN

Do ye hear the children weeping, O my brothers,  
 Ere the sorrow comes with years ?  
 They are leaning their young heads against their mothers,  
 And *that* cannot stop their tears.  
 The young lambs are bleating in the meadows,  
 The young birds are chirping in the nest,  
 The young fawns are playing with the shadows,  
 The young flowers are blowing toward the west—  
 But the young, young children, O my brothers,  
 They are weeping bitterly !  
 They are weeping in the playtime of the others,  
 In the country of the free.

Do you question the young children in the sorrow,  
 Why their tears are falling so ?  
 The old man may weep for his to-morrow  
 Which is lost in Long Ago ;  
 The old tree is leafless in the forest,  
 The old year is ending in the frost,  
 The old wound, if stricken, is the sorest,  
 The old hope is hardest to be lost.  
 But the young, young children, O my brothers,  
 Do you ask them why they stand  
 Weeping sore before the bosoms of their mothers,  
 In our happy Fatherland ?

They look up with their pale and sunken faces,  
 And their looks are sad to see,  
 For the man's hoary anguish draws and presses  
 Down the cheeks of infancy.  
 'Your old earth,' they say, 'is very dreary ;  
 Our young feet,' they say, 'are very weak ;  
 Few paces have we taken, yet are weary—  
 Our grave-rest is very far to seek.  
 Ask the aged why they weep, and not the children ;  
 For the outside earth is cold ;  
 And we young ones stand without, in our bewildering.  
 And the graves are for the old.'

. . . . .  
 Alas, alas, the children ! they are seeking  
 Death in life, as best to have ;  
 They are binding up their hearts away from breaking,  
 With a cerement from the grave.  
 Go out, children, from the mine and from the city,  
 Sing out, children, as the little thrushes do ;

Pluck you handfuls of the meadow cowslips pretty,  
 Laugh aloud to feel your fingers let them through !  
 But they answer, ' Are your cowslips of the meadows  
 Like our weeds anear the mine ?  
 Leave us quiet in the dark of the coal-shadows,  
 From your pleasures fair and fine !

' For oh,' say the children, ' we are weary,  
 And we cannot run or leap ;  
 If we cared for any meadows, it were merely  
 To drop down in them and sleep.  
 Our knees tremble sorely in the stooping,  
 We fall upon our faces, trying to go ;  
 And, underneath our heavy eyelids drooping,  
 The reddest flower would look as pale as snow ;  
 For, all day, we drag our burden tiring  
 Through the coal-dark, underground—  
 Or, all day, we drive the wheels of iron  
 In the factories, round and round.'

. . . . .

And well may the children weep before you !  
 They are weary ere they run ;  
 They have never seen the sunshine, nor the glory  
 Which is brighter than the sun.  
 They know the grief of man, without its wisdom ;  
 They sink in man's despair, without its calm ;  
 Are slaves, without the liberty in Christdom,  
 Are martyrs, by the pang without the palm,—  
 Are worn, as if with age, yet unretrievingly  
 The harvest of its memories cannot reap,—  
 Are orphans of the earthly love and heavenly.  
 Let them weep ! let them weep !

They look up, with their pale and sunken faces,  
 And their look is dread to see,  
 For they mind you of their angels in high places,  
 With eyes turned on Deity !—  
 ' How long,' they say, ' how long, O cruel nation,  
 Will you stand, to move the world, on a child's heart,—  
 Stifle down with a mailed heel its palpitation,  
 And tread onward to your throne amid the mart ?  
 Our blood splashes upward, O gold-heaper,  
 And your purple shows your path !  
 But the child's sob in the silence curses deeper  
 Than the strong man in his wrath.'

E. B. BROWNING.



## 74. A PORTRAIT

FACE and figure of a child,—  
 Though too calm, you think,  
 and tender,  
 For the childhood you would  
 lend her.

Yet child-simple, undefiled,  
 Frank, obedient,—waiting still  
 On the turnings of your will.

And if any poet knew her,  
 He would sing of her with  
 falls  
 Used in lovely madrigals.

And if any painter drew her,  
 He would paint her unaware  
 With a halo round the hair.  
 E. B. BROWNING.

## 75. HOW DO I LOVE THEE ?

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 every day'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 (*Sonnets from the Portuguese*).

## 76. THE SEA-MEW

How joyously the young sea-mew  
 Lay dreaming on the waters blue,  
 Whereon our little bark had thrown  
 A little shade, the only one,—  
 But shadows ever man pursue.

Familiar with the waves and free  
 As if their own white foam were he,  
 His heart upon the heart of ocean  
 Lay learning all its mystic motion,  
 And throbbing to the throbbing sea.

And such a brightness in his eye,  
 As if the ocean and the sky  
 Within him had lit up and nurst  
 A soul God gave him not at first  
 To comprehend their majesty.

We were not cruel, yet did sunder  
 His white wing from the blue waves under,  
 And bound it, while his fearless eyes  
 Shone up to ours in calm surprise,  
 As deeming us some ocean wonder!

We bore our ocean bird unto  
 A grassy place, where he might view  
 The flowers that curtsy to the bees,  
 The waving of the tall green trees,  
 The falling of the silver dew.

But flowers of earth were pale to him  
 Who had seen the rainbow fishes swim;  
 And when earth's dew around him lay  
 He thought of ocean's wingèd spray,  
 And his eye waxèd sad and dim.

The green trees round him only made  
 A prison with their darksome shade;  
 And drooped his wing, and mournèd he  
 For his own boundless glittering sea—  
 Albeit he knew not they could fade.

Then One her gladsome face did bring,  
 Her gentle voice's murmuring,  
 In ocean's stead his heart to move  
 And teach him what was human love—  
 He thought it a strange, mournful thing.

He lay down in his grief to die  
 (First looking to the sea-like sky  
 That hath no waves!), because, alas!  
 Our human touch did on him pass,  
 And with our touch, our agony. E. B. BROWNING.

#### 77. I THOUGHT ONCE HOW THEOCRITUS HAD SUNG

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.'

E. B. BROWNING (*Sonnets from the Portuguese*).

## 78. A THOUGHT FOR A LONELY DEATH-BED

IF God compel thee to this destiny,  
 To die alone,—with none beside thy bed  
 To ruffle round with sobs thy last word said,  
 And mark with tears the pulses ebb from thee,—  
 Pray then alone—‘ O Christ, come tenderly !  
 By thy forsaken Sonship in the red  
 Drear wine-press,—by the wilderness outspread,—  
 And the lone garden where Thine agony  
 Fell bloody from Thy brow,—by all of those  
 Permitted desolations, comfort mine !  
 No earthly friend being near me, interpose  
 No deathly angel ’twixt my face and Thine,  
 But stoop Thyself to gather my life’s rose,  
 And smile away my mortal to Divine.’

E. B. BROWNING (*To E. C.*).

## 79. IF THOU MUST LOVE ME

IF thou must love me, let it be for nought  
 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, Belovèd, 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 mayst love on, through love’s eternity.

E. B. BROWNING (*Sonnets from the Portuguese*).

## 80. THE SLEEP

He giveth his beloved sleep.—*Ps.* cxxvii. 2.

OF all the thoughts of God that are  
 Borne inward unto souls afar,  
 Along the Psalmist’s music deep,  
 Now tell me if that any is,  
 For gift or grace, surpassing this—  
 ‘ He giveth His belovèd, sleep ’ ?

What would we give to our beloved ?  
 The hero’s heart, to be unmoved,  
 The poet’s star-tuned harp, to sweep,

The patriot's voice, to teach and rouse,  
The monarch's crown, to light the brows?—  
He giveth His beloved, sleep.

What do we give to our beloved?  
A little faith all undisproved,  
A little dust to overweep,  
And bitter memories to make  
The whole earth blasted for our sake.  
He giveth His beloved, sleep.

'Sleep soft, beloved!' we sometimes say,  
But have no tune to charm away  
Sad dreams that through the eye-lids creep.  
But never doleful dream again  
Shall break the happy slumber when  
He giveth His beloved, sleep.

O earth, so full of dreary noises!  
O men, with wailing in your voices!  
O delvèd gold, the wailers heap!  
O strife, O curse, that o'er it fall!  
God strikes a silence through you all,  
And giveth His beloved, sleep.

His dews drop mutely on the hill;  
His cloud above it saileth still,  
Though on its slope men sow and reap.  
More softly than the dew is shed,  
Or cloud is floated overhead,  
He giveth His beloved, sleep.

Aye, men may wonder while they scan  
A living, thinking, feeling man  
Confirmed in such a rest to keep;  
But angels say, and through the word  
I think their happy smile is *heard*—  
'He giveth His beloved, sleep.'

For me, my heart that erst did go  
Most like a tired child at a show,  
That sees through tears the mummers leap,  
Would now its wearied vision close,  
Would child-like on His love repose,  
Who giveth His beloved, sleep.

And, friends, dear friends,—when it shall be  
That this low breath is gone from me,  
And round my bier ye come to weep,  
Let One, most loving of you all,  
Say, 'Not a tear must o'er her fall;  
He giveth His beloved, sleep.'

E. B. BROWNING.

## 81. COMFORT

SPEAK low to me, my Saviour, low and sweet  
 From out the hallelujahs, sweet and low,  
 Lest I should fear and fall, and miss Thee so,  
 Who art not missed by any that entreat.  
 Speak to me as to Mary at Thy feet!  
 And if no precious gums my hands bestow,  
 Let my tears drop like amber, while I go  
 In reach of Thy divinest voice complete  
 In humanest affection—thus, in sooth,  
 To lose the sense of losing. As a child,  
 Whose song-bird seeks the wood for evermore,  
 Is sung to in its stead by mother's mouth,  
 Till, sinking on her breast, love-reconciled,  
 He sleeps the faster that he wept before.

E. B. BROWNING.

## 82. THE CYGNET FINDS THE WATER

THE cygnet finds the water, but the man  
 Is born in ignorance of his element  
 And feels out blind at first, disorganized  
 By sin i' the blood,—his spirit-insight dulled  
 And crossed by his sensations. Presently  
 He feels it quicken in the dark sometimes,  
 When, mark, be reverent, be obedient,  
 For such dumb motions of imperfect life  
 Are oracles of vital Deity  
 Attesting the Hereafter. Let who says  
 'The soul's a clean white paper', rather say,  
 A palimpsest, a prophet's holograph  
 Defiled, erased and covered by a monk's,—  
 The apocalypse, by a Longus! poring on  
 Which obscene text, we may discern perhaps  
 Some fair, fine trace of what was written once,  
 Some upstroke of an alpha and omega  
 Expressing the old scripture.

E. B. BROWNING (*Aurora Leigh*).

## 83. THE FACE OF ALL THE WORLD IS CHANGED

THE face of all the world is changed, I think,  
 Since first I heard the footsteps of thy soul  
 Move still, oh, still, beside me, as they stole  
 Betwixt me and the dreadful outer brink  
 Of obvious death, where I, who thought to sink,  
 Was caught up into love, and taught the whole  
 Of life in a new rhythm. The cup of dole  
 God gave for baptism, I am fain to drink,

And praise its sweetness, Sweet, with thee anear.  
 The names of country, heaven, are changed away  
 For where thou art or shalt be, there or here ;  
 And this . . . this lute and song . . . loved yesterday  
 (The singing angels know) are only dear,  
 Because thy name moves right in what they say.

E. B. BROWNING (*Sonnets from the Portuguese*).

#### 84. THE POETS

THERE, obedient to her praying, did I read aloud the poems  
 Made to Tuscan flutes, or instruments more various of our own ;  
 Read the pastoral parts of Spenser—or the subtle interflowings  
 Found in Petrarch's sonnets—here 's the book—the leaf is folded  
 down !

Or at times a modern volume—Wordsworth's solemn-thoughted idyl,  
 Howitt's ballad-verse, or Tennyson's enchanted reverie,—  
 Or from Browning some 'Pomegranate', which, if cut deep down the  
 middle,

Shows a heart within blood-tinctured, of a veined humanity.

E. B. BROWNING (*Lady Geraldine's Courtship*).

#### 85. HIRAM POWERS'S GREEK SLAVE

THEY say Ideal beauty cannot enter  
 The house of anguish. On the threshold stands  
 An alien Image with ensnaked hands,  
 Called the Greek Slave ! as if the artist meant her  
 (That passionless perfection which he lent her,  
 Shadowed not darkened where the sill expands)  
 To, so, confront man's crimes in different lands  
 With man's ideal sense. Pierce to the centre,  
 Art's fiery finger !—and break up ere long  
 The serfdom of this world ! appeal, fair stone,  
 From God's pure heights of beauty against man's wrong !  
 Catch up in thy divine face, not alone  
 East griefs but west,—and strike and shame the strong,  
 By thunders of white silence, overthrown.

E. B. BROWNING.

#### 86. TO GEORGE SAND

##### A DESIRE

THOU large-brained woman and large-hearted man,  
 Self-called George Sand ! whose soul, amid the lions  
 Of thy tumultuous senses, moans defiance,  
 And answers roar for roar, as spirits can !  
 I would some mild miraculous thunder ran  
 Above the applauded circus, in appliance

Of thine own nobler nature's strength and science,  
 Drawing two pinions, white as wings of swan,  
 From thy strong shoulders, to amaze the place  
 With holier light! that thou to woman's claim  
 And man's, mightst join beside the angel's grace  
 Of a pure genius sanctified from blame,—  
 Till child and maiden pressed to thine embrace,  
 To kiss upon thy lips a stainless fame.

## A RECOGNITION

True genius, but true woman! dost deny  
 Thy woman's nature with a manly scorn,  
 And break away the gauds and armlets worn  
 By weaker women in captivity?  
 Ah, vain denial! that revolted cry  
 Is sobbed in by a woman's voice forlorn!—  
 Thy woman's hair, my sister, all unshorn,  
 Floats back dishevelled strength in agony,  
 Disproving thy man's name! and while before  
 The world thou burnest in a poet-fire,  
 We see thy woman-heart beat evermore  
 Through the large flame. Beat purer, heart, and higher,  
 Till God unsex thee on the heavenly shore,  
 Where unincarnate spirits purely aspire.

E. B. BROWNING.

## 87. THE LADY'S YES

<p>'YES,' I answered you last night ;          'No,' this morning, sir, I say.          Colours seen by candle-light          Will not look the same by day.</p> <p>When the viols played their best,          Lamps above, and laughs below,  <i>Love me</i> sounded like a jest,          Fit for <i>yes</i> or fit for <i>no</i>.</p> <p>Call me false or call me free—          Vow, whatever light may shine,          No man on your face shall see          Any grief, for change on mine.</p>	<p>Yet the sin is on us both ;          Time to dance is not to woo ;          Wooing light makes fickle troth,          Scorn of <i>me</i> recoils on <i>you</i>.</p> <p>Learn to win a lady's faith          Nobly, as the thing is high,          Bravely, as for life and death—          With a loyal gravity.</p> <p>Lead her from the festive boards,          Point her to the starry skies,          Guard her, by your truthful words,          Pure from courtship's flatteries.</p>
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By your truth she shall be true,  
 Ever true, as wives of yore ;  
 And her *yes*, once said to you,  
 SHALL be Yes for evermore.

E. B. BROWNING.

## 88. YET LOVE, MERE LOVE

YET, love, mere love, is beautiful indeed  
 And worthy of acceptance. 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.

E. B. BROWNING (*Sonnets from the Portuguese*).

## 89. FLUSH OR FAUNUS

You see this dog. It was but yesterday  
 I mused forgetful of his presence here  
 Till thought on thought drew downward tear on tear,  
 When from the pillow, where wet-cheeked I lay,  
 A head as hairy as Faunus, thrnst its way  
 Right sudden against my face,—two golden-clear  
 Great eyes astonished mine,—a drooping ear  
 Did flap me on either cheek to dry the spray!  
 I started first, as some Arcadian,  
 Amazed by goatly god in twilight grove;  
 But, as the bearded vision closelier ran  
 My tears off, I knew Flush, and rose above  
 Surprise and sadness,—thanking the true PAN,  
 Who, by low creatures, leads to heights of love.

E. B. BROWNING.

## 90. MY STAR

ALL that I know  
 Of a certain star,  
 Is, it can throw  
 (Like the angled spar)  
 Now a dart of red,  
 Now a dart of blue,  
 Till my friends have said  
 They would fain see, too,  
 My star that dartles the red and the blue!  
 Then it stops like a bird; like a flower, hangs furled:  
 They must solace themselves with the Saturn above it.  
 What matter to me if their star is a world?  
 Mine has opened its soul to me; therefore I love it.

R. BROWNING.



## 91. 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 self-same mark,

I shape me—

Ever

Removed !

R. BROWNING.

## 92. 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.

## 93. GROW OLD ALONG WITH ME

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!'  
 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!  
 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:  
 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:  
 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.  
 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 (*Rabbi Ben Ezra*).

## 94. THE NELSON TOUCH

HERE 's to Nelson's memory !  
 'Tis the second time that I, at sea,  
 Right off Cape Trafalgar here,  
 Have drunk it deep in British Beer.  
 Nelson for ever—any time  
 Am I his to command in prose or rhyme !  
 Give me of Nelson only a touch,  
 And I save it, be it little or much.

R. BROWNING (*Nationality in Drinks*).

## 95. RUDEL TO THE LADY OF TRIPOLI

I KNOW a Mount, the gracious Sun perceives  
 First when he visits, last, too, when he leaves  
 The world ; and, vainly favoured, it repays  
 The day-long glory of his steadfast gaze  
 By no change of its large calm front of snow.  
 And underneath the Mount, a Flower I know,  
 He cannot have perceived, that changes ever  
 At his approach ; and, in the lost endeavour  
 To live his life, has parted, one by one,  
 With all a flower's true graces, for the grace  
 Of being but a foolish mimic sun,  
 With ray-like florets round a disk-like face.  
 Men nobly call by many a name the Mount  
 As over many a land of theirs its large  
 Calm front of snow like a triumphal targe  
 Is reared, and still with old names, fresh ones vie,  
 Each to its proper praise and own account :  
 Men call the Flower, the Sunflower, sportively.  
 Oh, Angel of the East, one, one gold look  
 Across the waters to this twilight nook,  
 —The far sad waters, Angel, to this nook !  
 Dear Pilgrim, art thou for the East indeed ?  
 Go ! Saying ever as thou dost proceed,  
 That I, French Rudel, choose for my device  
 A sunflower outspread like a sacrifice  
 Before its idol. See ! These inexpert  
 And hurried fingers could not fail to hurt  
 The woven picture ; 'tis a woman's skill  
 Indeed ; but nothing baffled me, so, ill  
 Or well, the work is finished. Say, men feed  
 On songs I sing, and therefore bask the bees  
 On my flower's breast as on a platform broad :  
 But, as the flower's concern is not for these  
 But solely for the sun, so men applaud  
 In vain this Rudel, he not looking here  
 But to the East—the East ! Go, say this, Pilgrim dear !

R. BROWNING.

96. 'HOW THEY BROUGHT THE GOOD NEWS FROM  
GHENT TO AIX' [16—]

I SPRANG to the stirrup, and Joris, and he ;  
I galloped, Dirck galloped, we galloped all three ;  
'Good speed !' cried the watch, as the gate-bolts undrew ;  
'Speed !' echoed the wall to us galloping through ;  
Behind shut the postern, the lights sank to rest,  
And into the midnight we galloped abreast.

Not a word to each other ; we kept the great pace  
Neck by neck, stride by stride, never changing our place ;  
I turned in my saddle and made its girths tight,  
Then shortened each stirrup, and set the pique right,  
Rebuckled the cheek-strap, chained slacker the bit,  
Nor galloped less steadily Roland a whit.

'Twas moonset at starting ; but while we drew near  
Lokeren, the cocks crew and twilight dawned clear ;  
At Boom, a great yellow star came out to see ;  
At Düffeld, 'twas morning as plain as could be ;  
And from Mecheln church-steeple we heard the half-chime,  
So Joris broke silence with 'Yet there is time !'

At Aerschot, up leaped of a sudden the sun,  
And against him the cattle stood black every one,  
To stare through the mist at us galloping past,  
And I saw my stout galloper Roland at last,  
With resolute shoulders, each butting away  
The haze, as some bluff river headland its spray.

And his low head and crest, just one sharp ear bent back  
For my voice, and the other pricked out on his track ;  
And one eye's black intelligence,—ever that glance  
O'er its white edge at me, his own master, askance !  
And the thick heavy spume-flakes which aye and anon  
His fierce lips shook upwards in galloping on.

By Hasselt, Dirck groaned ; and cried Joris, 'Stay spur !  
Your Roos galloped bravely, the fault's not in her,  
We'll remember at Aix'—for one heard the quick wheeze  
Of her chest, saw the stretched neck and staggering knees,  
And sunk tail, and horrible heave of the flank,  
As down on her haunches she shuddered and sank.

So we were left galloping, Joris and I,  
Past Looz and past Tongres, no cloud in the sky ;  
The broad sun above laughed a pitiless laugh,  
'Neath our feet broke the brittle bright stubble like chaff ;  
Till over by Dalhem a dome-spire sprang white,  
And 'Gallop', gasped Joris, 'for Aix is in sight !'

'How they'll greet us!'—and all in a moment his roan  
 Rolled neck and croup over, lay dead as a stone;  
 And there was my Roland to bear the whole weight  
 Of the news which alone could save Aix from her fate,  
 With his nostrils like pits full of blood to the brim,  
 And with circles of red for his eye-sockets' rim.

Then I cast loose my buffcoat, each holster let fall,  
 Shook off both my jack-boots, let go belt and all,  
 Stood up in the stirrup, leaned, patted his ear,  
 Called my Roland his pet-name, my horse without peer;  
 Clapped my hands, laughed and sang, any noise, bad or good,  
 Till at length into Aix Roland galloped and stood.

And all I remember is, friends flocking round  
 As I sat with his head 'twixt my knees on the ground;  
 And no voice but was praising this Roland of mine,  
 As I poured down his throat our last measure of wine,  
 Which (the burgesses voted by common consent)  
 Was no more than his due who brought good news from Ghent.

R. BROWNING.

#### 97. IT'S WISER BEING GOOD THAN BAD

It's wiser being good than bad;  
 It's safer being meek than fierce:  
 It's fitter being sane than mad.  
 My own hope is, a sun will pierce  
 The thickest cloud earth ever stretched  
 That, after Last, returns the First,  
 Though a wide compass round be fetched;  
 That what began best, can't end worst,  
 Nor what God blessed once, prove accurst.

R. BROWNING (*Apparent Failure*).

#### 98. THE PATRIOT

##### AN OLD STORY

It was roses, roses, all the way,  
 With myrtle mixed in my path like mad:  
 The house-roofs seemed to heave and sway,  
 The church-spires flamed, such flags they had,  
 A year ago on this very day!  
 The air broke into a mist with bells,  
 The old walls rocked with the crowd and cries.  
 Had I said, 'Good folk, mere noise repels—  
 But give me your sun from yonder skies!'  
 They had answered, 'And afterward, what else?'

Alack, it was I who leaped at the sun  
 To give it my loving friends to keep!  
 Naught man could do, have I left undone:  
 And you see my harvest, what I reap  
 This very day, now a year is run.

There 's nobody on the house-tops now—  
 Just a palsied few at the windows set;  
 For the best of the sight is, all allow,  
 At the Shambles' Gate—or, better yet,  
 By the very scaffold's foot, I trow.

I go in the rain, and, more than needs,  
 A rope cuts both my wrists behind;  
 And I think, by the feel, my forehead bleeds,  
 For they fling, whoever has a mind,  
 Stones at me for my year's misdeeds.

Thus I entered, and thus I go!  
 In triumphs, people have dropped down dead.  
 'Paid by the World,—what dost thou owe  
 Me?' God might question: now instead,  
 'Tis God shall repay! I am safer so.

R. BROWNING.

### 99. ITALY

ITALY, my Italy!  
 Queen Mary's saying serves for me—  
 (When fortune's malice  
 Lost her, Calais)  
 Open my heart and you will see  
 Graved inside of it, 'Italy.'  
 Such lovers old are I and she;  
 So it always was, so shall ever be!

R. BROWNING (*De Gustibus*—).

### 100. 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 through 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.

#### 101. 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.

## 102. NAY BUT YOU, WHO DO NOT LOVE HER

NAY but you, who do not love her,  
 Is she not pure gold, my mistress ?  
 Holds earth aught—speak truth—above her ?  
 Aught like this tress, see, and this tress,  
 And this last fairest tress of all,  
 So fair, see, ere I let it fall ?

Because, you spend your lives in praising ;  
 To praise, you search the wide world over :  
 So, why not witness, calmly gazing,  
 If earth holds aught—speak truth—above her ?  
 Above this tress, and this I touch  
 But cannot praise, I love so much !

R. BROWNING.

## 103. 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 evening, turn to God to praise and pray,  
 While Jove's planet rises yonder, silent over Africa.

R. BROWNING.

## 104. OH, GOOD GIGANTIC SMILE O' THE BROWN OLD EARTH

OH, good gigantic smile o' the brown old earth,  
 This autumn morning ! How he sets his bones  
 To bask i' the sun, and thrusts out knees and feet  
 For the ripple to run over in its mirth ;  
 Listening the while, where on the heap of stones  
 The white breast of the sea-lark twitters sweet.

R. BROWNING (*James Lee's Wife*).

## 105. 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.

## 106. FROM 'ONE WORD MORE'

RAFAEL made a century of sonnets,  
 Made and wrote them in a certain volume  
 Dinted with the silver-pointed pencil  
 Else he only used to draw Madonnas :  
 These the world might view—but One, the volume.  
 Who that one, you ask ? Your heart instructs you.  
 Did she live and love it all her life-time ?  
 Did she drop, his lady of the sonnets,  
 Die, and let it drop beside her pillow  
 Where it lay in place of Rafael's glory,  
 Rafael's cheek so duteous and so loving—  
 Cheek, the world was wont to hail a painter's,  
 Rafael's cheek, her love had turned a poet's ?  
 You and I would rather read that volume  
 (Taken to his beating bosom by it),  
 Lean and list the bosom-beats of Rafael,  
 Would we not ? than wonder at Madonnas.

. . . . .  
 Dante once prepared to paint an angel :  
 Whom to please ? You whisper ' Beatrice ' .  
 While he mused and traced it and retraced it  
 (Peradventure with a pen corroded  
 Still by drops of that hot ink he dipped for,  
 When, his left-hand i' the hair o' the wicked,  
 Back he held the brow and pricked its stigma,  
 Bit into the live man's flesh for parchment,  
 Loosed him, laughed to see the writing rankle,  
 Let the wretch go festering through Florence)—  
 Dante, who loved well because he hated,  
 Hated wickedness that hinders loving,  
 Dante standing, studying his angel,—  
 In there broke the folk of his Inferno.

. . . . .

You and I would rather see that angel,  
 Painted by the tenderness of Dante,  
 Would we not?—than read a fresh Inferno.

God be thanked, the meanest of His creatures  
 Boasts two soul-sides, one to face the world with,  
 One to show a woman when he loves her.

Oh, their Rafael of the dear Madonnas,  
 Oh, their Dante of the dread Inferno.  
 Wrote one song—and in my brain I sing it,  
 Drew one angel—borne, see, on my bosom!

R. BROWNING.

107. AFTER

TAKE the cloak from his face, and  
 at first  
 Let the corpse do its worst.

How he lies in his rights of a  
 man!

Death has done all death  
 can.

And, absorbed in the new life he  
 leads,

He recks not, he heeds

Nor his wrong nor my vengeance  
 —both strike

On his senses alike,

And are lost in the solemn and  
 strange

Surprise of the change.

Ha, what avails death to erase

His offence, my disgrace?

I would we were boys as of old

In the field, by the fold:

His outrage, God's patience, man's  
 scorn

Were so easily borne.

I stand here now, he lies in his  
 place:

Cover the face.

R. BROWNING.

108. FROM 'A GRAMMARIAN'S FUNERAL'

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 hands 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 purlieus,  
 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.

## 109. THE YEAR'S AT THE SPRING

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 ( <i>Pippa Passes</i> ).
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## 110. 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.

## 111. WARING

## I

WHAT'S become of Waring  
 Since he gave us all the slip,  
 Chose land-travel or seafaring,  
 Boots and chest or staff and  
 scrip,  
 Rather than pace up and down  
 Any longer London-town ?

Who'd have guessed it from his  
 lip  
 Or his brow's accustomed bearing,  
 On the night he thus took ship  
 Or started landward ?—little car-  
 ing  
 For us, it seems, who supped  
 together  
 (Friends of his too, I remember)  
 And walked home through the  
 merry weather,  
 The snowiest in all December.  
 I left his arm that night myself  
 For what 's-his-name's, the new  
 prose-poet  
 That wrote the book there, on  
 the shelf—

How, forsooth, was I to know it  
 If Waring meant to glide away  
 Like a ghost at break of day ?  
 Never looked he half so gay !

He was prouder than the Devil :  
 How he must have cursed our  
 revel !

Aye, and many other meetings,  
 Indoor visits, outdoor greetings,  
 As up and down he paced this  
 London,

With no work done, but great  
 works undone,  
 Where scarce twenty knew his  
 name.

Why not, then, have earlier  
 spoken,  
 Written, bustled ? Who's to  
 blame  
 If your silence kept unbroken ?

' True, but there were sundry  
 jottings,  
 Stray-leaves, fragments, blurs  
 and blottings,  
 Certain first steps were achieved  
 Already which'—(is that your  
 meaning ?)

' Had well borne out whoe'er  
 believed  
 In more to come !' But who  
 goes gleaning  
 Hedge-side chance-blades, while  
 full-sheaved  
 Stand cornfields by him ? Pride,  
 o'erweening  
 Pride alone, puts forth such  
 claims  
 O'er the day's distinguished  
 names.

Meantime, how much I loved him,  
 I find out now I've lost him :  
 I, who cared not if I moved him,  
 Who could so carelessly accost  
 him,  
 Henceforth never shall get free  
 Of his ghostly company.

## II

' When I last saw Waring . . .'  
 (How all turned to him who  
 spoke—

You saw Waring ? Truth or  
 joke ?

In land-travel, or sea-faring ?)  
 ' We were sailing by Triest,  
 Where a day or two we harboured :  
 A sunset was in the West,  
 When, looking over the vessel's  
 side,

One of our company espied  
 A sudden speck to larboard.  
 And, as a sea-duck flies and  
 swims  
 At once, so came the light craft  
 up,

With its sole lateen sail that trims  
And turns (the water round its  
rims

Dancing, as round a sinking cup)  
And by us like a fish it curled,  
And drew itself up close beside,  
Its great sail on the instant furled,  
And o'er its planks, a shrill voice  
cried

(A neck as bronzed as a Lascar's),  
"Buy wine of us, you English  
Brig ?

Or fruit, tobacco and cigars ?  
A pilot for you up to Triest ?  
Without one, look you ne'er so  
big,  
They'll never let you up the  
bay !

We natives should know best."  
I turned, and "Just those fellows'  
way",

Our captain said, "The 'long-  
shore thieves  
Are laughing at us in their sleeves."

' In truth, the boy leaned laughing  
back ;  
And one, half-hidden by his side  
Under the furled sail, soon I  
spied,  
With great grass hat and kerchief  
black,

Who looked up with his kingly  
throat,  
Said somewhat, while the other  
shook

His hair back from his eyes to  
look

Their longest at us ; then the boat,  
I know not how, turned sharply  
round,

Laying her whole side on the sea  
As a leaping fish does ; from the  
lee,

Into the weather, cut somehow  
Her sparkling path beneath our  
bow ;

And so went off, as with a bound,  
Into the rosy and golden half  
Of the sky, to overtake the sun  
And reach the shore, like the sea-  
calf

Its singing cave ; yet I caught one  
Glance ere away the boat quite  
passed,

And neither time nor toil could  
mar

Those features : so I saw the last  
Of Waring !—You ? Oh, never  
star

Was lost here, but it rose afar !  
Look East, where whole new  
thousands are !

In Vishnu-land what Avatar ?

R. BROWNING.

## 112. YOU'LL LOVE ME YET

YOU'LL love me yet!—and I can tarry  
Your love's protracted growing:  
June reared this bunch of flowers you carry,  
From seeds of April's sowing.

I plant a heartfelt now: some seed  
At least is sure to strike,  
And yield—what you'll not pluck indeed,  
Not love, but, may be, like !

You'll look at least on love's remains,  
A grave's one violet:  
Your look?—that pays a thousand pains,  
What's death?—you'll love me yet !

R. BROWNING (*Pippa Passes*).

## 113. FROM 'JUNE'

AND what if cheerful shouts, at noon,  
 Come, from the village sent,  
 Or songs of maids, beneath the moon,  
 With fairy laughter blent?  
 And what if, in the evening light,  
 Betrothèd lovers walk in sight  
 Of my low monument?  
 I would the lovely scene around  
 Might know no sadder sight nor sound.  
 I know, I know I should not see  
 The season's glorious show,  
 Nor would its brightness shine for me,  
 Nor its wild music flow;  
 But if around my place of sleep,  
 The friends I love should come to weep,  
 They might not haste to go.  
 Soft airs, and song, and light, and bloom  
 Should keep them lingering by my tomb.  
 These to their softened hearts should bear  
 The thought of what has been,  
 And speak of one who cannot share  
 The gladness of the scene;  
 Whose part in all the pomp that fills  
 The circuit of the summer hills,  
 Is—that his grave is green;  
 And deeply would their hearts rejoice  
 To hear, again, his living voice.

W. C. BRYANT.

## 114. SO LIVE, THAT WHEN THY SUMMONS COMES

So live, that when thy summons comes to join  
 The innumerable caravan, which moves  
 To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
 His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
 Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night,  
 Scourged to his dungeon; but, sustained and soothed  
 By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,  
 Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
 About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

W. C. BRYANT (*Thanatopsis*).

## 115. TO THE FRINGED GENTIAN

THOU blossom bright with autumn dew,  
 And coloured with heaven's own blue,  
 That openest when the quiet light  
 Succeeds the keen and frosty night.

Thou comest not when violets lean  
 O'er wandering brooks and springs unseen,  
 Or columbines, in purple dressed,  
 Nod o'er the ground-bird's hidden nest.

Thou waitest late and com'st alone,  
 When woods are bare and birds are flown,  
 And frosts and shortening days portend  
 The aged year is near his end.

Then doth thy sweet and quiet eye  
 Look through its fringes to the sky,  
 Blue—blue—as if that sky let fall  
 A flower from its cerulean wall.

I would that thus, when I shall see  
 The hour of death draw near to me,  
 Hope, blossoming within my heart,  
 May look to heaven as I depart.

W. C. BRYANT.

#### 116. 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.

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.

## 117. FROM 'ARTIST AND MODEL'

Is it not pleasant to wander  
 In town on Saturday night,  
 While people go hither or thither,  
 And shops shed cheerful light ?  
 And, arm in arm, while our  
 shadows

Chase us along the panes,  
 Are we not quite as cosy  
 As down among country lanes ?

Nobody knows us, heeds us,  
 Nobody hears or sees,  
 And the shop-lights gleam more  
 gladly  
 Than the moon on hedges and  
 trees ;

And people coming and going,  
 All upon ends of their own,  
 Though they work a spell on the  
 spirit,  
 Move it more finely alone.

The sound seems harmless and  
 pleasant  
 As the murmur of brook and  
 wind ;

The shops with the fruit and the  
 pictures  
 Have sweetness to suit my  
 mind ;

And nobody knows us, heeds  
 us,  
 And our loving none reproves,—  
 I, the poor figure-painter !  
 You, the lady he loves !

And what if the world should  
 scorn you,  
 For now and again, as you do,  
 Assuming a country kirtle,  
 And bonnet of straw thereto,  
 Or the robe of a vestal virgin,  
 Or a nun's grey gabardine,  
 And keeping a brother and sister  
 By standing and looking divine ?

And what if the world, more-  
 over,  
 Should silently pass me by,  
 Because, at the dawn of the  
 struggle,  
 I labour some stories high !  
 Why, there's comfort in waiting,  
 working,  
 And feeling one's heart beat  
 right,—  
 And rambling alone, love-making,  
 In London on Saturday night.  
 R. BUCHANAN.

## 118. LIZ

THE crimson light of sunset falls  
 Through the grey glamour of the murmuring rain,  
 And creeping o'er the housetops crawls  
 Through the black smoke upon the broken pane,  
 Steals to the straw on which she lies,  
 And tints her thin black hair and hollow cheeks,  
 Her sun-tanned neck, her glistening eyes,—  
 While faintly, sadly, fitfully she speaks.  
 But when it is no longer light,  
 The pale girl smiles, with only One to mark,  
 And dies upon the breast of Night,  
 Like trodden snowdrift melting in the dark.

R. BUCHANAN.



## 119. SONG IN THE VALLEY OF HUMILIATION

HE that is down, needs fear no  
 fall,  
 He that is low, no pride :  
 He that is humble, ever shall  
 Have God to be his guide.

I am content with what I have,  
 Little be it, or much :  
 And, Lord, contentment still I  
 crave,  
 Because Thou savest such.

Fullness to such a burden is  
 That go on pilgrimage :  
 Here little, and hereafter bliss,  
 Is best from age to age.

J. BUNYAN (*The Pilgrim's Progress*).

## 120. TO BE A PILGRIM

WHO would true valour see,  
 Let him come hither ;  
 One here will constant be,  
 Come wind, come weather.  
 There 's no discouragement,  
 Shall make him once relent  
 His first avowed intent  
 To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round  
 With dismal stories,  
 Do but themselves confound,  
 His strength the more is.

No lion can him fright,  
 He'll with a giant fight,  
 But he will have a right  
 To be a pilgrim.

Hobgoblin, nor foul fiend,  
 Can daunt his spirit ;  
 He knows he at the end  
 Shall life inherit.

Then fancies fly away,  
 He'll fear not what men say,  
 He'll labour night and day  
 To be a pilgrim.

J. BUNYAN (*The Pilgrim's Progress*).

## 121. OLD SCOTIA'S GRANDEUR

FROM scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur springs,  
 That makes her loved at home, revered abroad :  
 Princes and lords are but the breath of kings,  
 ' An honest man 's the noblest work of God ;'  
 And certes, in fair virtue's heavenly road,  
 The cottage leaves the palace far behind ;  
 What is a lordling's pomp ? a cumbrous load,  
 Disguising oft the wretch of human kind,  
 Studied in arts of hell, in wickedness refined !

R. BURNS (*The Cotter's Saturday Night*).

## 122. FOR A' THAT AND A' THAT

Is there, for honest poverty,  
 That hangs his head, and a' that ?  
 The coward-slave, we pass him by,  
 We dare be poor for a' that !  
 For a' that, and a' that,  
 Our toils obscure, and a' that ;  
 The rank is but the guinea's stamp ;  
 The man's the gowd for a' that.

What tho' on hamely fare we dine,  
 Wear hodden-grey, and a' that;  
 Gie fools their silks, and knaves their wine,  
 A man's a man for a' that.  
     For a' that, and a' that,  
     Their tinsel show, and a' that;  
     The honest man, tho' e'er sae poor  
     Is King o' men for a' that.

Ye see yon birkie, ca'd a lord,  
 Wha struts and stares, and a' that;  
 Tho' hundreds worship at his word,  
 He's but a coof for a' that:  
     For a' that, and a' that,  
     His riband, star, and a' that,  
     The man of independent mind,  
     He looks and laughs at a' that.

A prince can mak a belted knight,  
 A marquis, duke, and a' that;  
 But an honest man's aboon his might,  
 Guid faith he mauna fa' that!  
     For a' that, and a' that,  
     Their dignities, and a' that,  
     The pith o' sense, and pride o' worth,  
     Are higher rank than a' that.

Then let us pray that come it may,  
 As come it will for a' that;  
 That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth,  
 May bear the gree, and a' that.  
     For a' that, and a' that,  
     It's coming yet, for a' that,  
     That man to man the warld o'er,  
     Shall brothers be for a' that.

R. BURNS.

### 123. A' FOR OUR RIGHTFU' KING

<p>It was a' for our rightfu' King,          We left fair Scotland's strand;          It was a' for our rightfu' King,          We e'er saw Irish land,              My dear,          We e'er saw Irish land.</p> <p>Now a' is done that men can do,          And a' is done in vain;          My love and native land fare-          well,          For I maun cross the main,              My dear,          For I maun cross the main.</p>	<p>He turned him right and round          about          Upon the Irish shore;          And gae his bridle-reins a shake,          With adieu for evermore,              My dear,          Adieu for evermore.</p> <p>The sodger from the wars returns,          The sailor frae the main;          But I hae parted frae my love,          Never to meet again,              My dear,          Never to meet again.</p>
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When day is gane, and night is come,  
 And a' folk boune to sleep,  
 I think on him that 's far awa',  
 The lee-lang night, and weep,  
     My dear,  
 The lee-lang night, and weep.

R. BURNS.

## 124. JOHN ANDERSON MY JO

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 beld, 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,  
 And hand in hand we'll go,  
 And sleep thegither at the foot,  
 John Anderson, my jo.

R. BURNS.

## 125. FROM THE 'ADDRESS TO THE TOOTHACHE'

My curse upon your venom'd stang,  
 That shoots my tortured gums along,  
 And thro' my lugs gies monie a twang,  
     Wi' gnawing vengeance ;  
 Tearing my nerves wi' bitter pang,  
     Like racking engines !

When fevers burn, or ague freezes,  
 Rheumatics gnaw, or cholic squeezes ;  
 Our neighbour's sympathy may ease us,  
     Wi' pitying moan ;  
 But thee—thou hell o' a' diseases !  
     Ay mocks our groan.

R. BURNS.

## 126. MY HEART'S IN THE HIGHLANDS

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here ;  
 My heart's in the Highlands a-chasing the deer ;  
 Chasing the wild deer, and following the roe,  
 My heart's in the Highlands, wherever I go.  
 Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North,  
 The birth-place of valour, the country of worth ;  
 Wherever I wander, wherever I rove,  
 The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.

Farewell to the mountains, high cover'd with snow ;  
 Farewell to the straths and green valleys below ;  
 Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods ;  
 Farewell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods.  
 My heart 's in the Highlands, my heart is not here ;  
 My heart 's in the Highlands a-chasing the deer ;  
 Chasing the wild deer, and following the roe,  
 My heart 's in the Highlands, wherever I go.

R. BURNS.

## 127. MY LOVE IS LIKE A RED RED ROSE

My love is like a red red rose  
 That 's newly sprung in June :  
 My love is like the melodie  
 That 's sweetly played in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,  
 So deep in love am I :  
 And I will love 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 :  
 And I will love thee still, my dear,  
 While the sands o' life shall run.

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

R. BURNS.

## 128. MARY MORISON

O MARY, at thy window be,  
 It is the wished, the trysted 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 sighed, and said among them a',  
 'Ye are na Mary Morison.'

O Mary, canst thou wreck his  
 peace,  
 Wha for thy sake wad gladly  
 die ?  
 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.

## 129. 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 never made 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 sae bonnie.  
 R. BURNS.

### 130. A PRAYER IN THE PROSPECT OF DEATH

O THOU unknown Almighty Cause  
 Of all my hope and fear !  
 In whose dread presence, ere an hour,  
 Perhaps I must appear !  
 If I have wandered in those paths  
 Of life I ought to shun ;  
 As something, loudly in my breast,  
 Remonstrates I have done ;  
 Thou know'st that Thou hast formèd me  
 With passions wild and strong ;  
 And listening to their witching voice  
 Has often led me wrong.  
 Where human weakness has come short,  
 Or frailty stept aside,  
 Do Thou, All-Good ! for such Thou art,  
 In shades of darkness hide.  
 Where with intention I have erred,  
 No other plea I have,  
 But, Thou art good ; and Goodness still  
 Delighteth to forgive.

R. BURNS.

### 131. OF A' THE AIRTS THE WIND CAN BLOW

OF a' the airts the wind can blow,  
 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.  
 R. BURNS.

## 132. AULD LANG SYNE

SHOULD auld acquaintance be forgot,  
 And never brought to min' ?  
 Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
 And auld lang syne ?  
 For auld lang syne, my dear,  
 For auld lang syne,  
 We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
 For auld lang syne.

We twa hae run about the braes,  
 And pu'd the gowans fine ;  
 But we've wander'd mony a weary foot  
 Sin' auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidled i' the burn,  
 From morning sun till dine ;  
 But seas between us braid hae roar'd  
 Sin' auld lang syne.

And here's a hand, my trusty fiere,  
 And gie's a hand o' thine ;  
 And we'll tak a right guid-willie waught,  
 For auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp,  
 And surely I'll be mine ;  
 And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet  
 For auld lang syne.

For auld lang syne, my dear,  
 For auld lang syne,  
 We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
 For auld lang syne.

R. BURNS.

## 133. THE SELKIRK GRACE

SOME hae meat, and canna eat,  
 And some wad eat that want it ;  
 But we hae meat and we can eat,  
 And sae the Lord be thankit.

R. BURNS.

## 134. THEN GENTLY SCAN YOUR BROTHER MAN

THEN gently scan your brother  
 man,

Still gentler sister woman ;  
 Tho' they may gang a kennin  
 wrang,

To step aside is human.  
 One point must still be greatly dark,

The moving why they do it ;  
 And just as lamely can ye mark,  
 How far perhaps they rue it.

Who made the heart, 'tis He alone  
 Decidedly can try us ;

He knows each chord, its various  
 tone,

Each spring, its various bias.  
 Then at the balance let's be mute,

We never can adjust it ;  
 What's done we partly may  
 compute,

But know not what's resisted.

R. BURNS (*Address to the Unco Guid.*)

## 135. THE TRUE PATHOS

To make a happy fire-side clime  
 To weans and wife,  
 That's the true pathos and sublime  
 Of human life.

R. BURNS (*To Dr. Blacklock*).

## 136. BONNIE DOON

YE banks and braes o' bonnie Doon,  
 How can ye bloom sae fresh and fair ?  
 How can ye chant, ye little birds,  
 And I sae weary fu' o' care ?  
 Thou'lt break my heart, thou warbling bird,  
 That wantons thro' the flowering thorn :  
 Thou minds me o' departed joys,  
 Departed never to return.

Aft hae I roved by bonnie Doon,  
 To see the rose and woodbine twine ;  
 And ilka bird sang o' its love,  
 And fondly sae did I o' mine.  
 Wi' lightsome heart I pu'd a rose.  
 Fu' sweet upon its thorny tree ;  
 And my fause lover stole my rose,  
 But ah ! he left the thorn wi' me.

R. BURNS.

## 137. THE RELIGION OF HUDIBRAS

FOR his Religion, it was fit  
 To match his learning and his  
 wit ;  
 'Twas Presbyterian true blue ;  
 For he was of that stubborn crew  
 Of errant saints, whom all men  
 grant  
 To be the true Church Militant ;  
 Such as do build their faith upon  
 The holy text of pike and gun ;  
 Decide all controversies by  
 Infallible artillery ;  
 And prove their doctrine orthodox  
 By apostolic blows and knocks ;  
 Call fire and sword and desola-  
 tion,  
 A godly thorough Reformation ;

Compound for sins they are in-  
 clined to,  
 By damning those they have no  
 mind to :  
 Still so perverse and opposite,  
 As if they worshipped God for  
 spite.  
 . . . . .  
 Rather than fail they will defy  
 That which they love most ten-  
 derly,  
 Quarrel with minced pies, and  
 disparage  
 Their best and dearest friend—  
 plum-porridge ;  
 Fat pig or goose itself oppose  
 And blaspheme custard through  
 the nose.

S. BUTLER (*Hudibras*).

## 138. MEN AND WOMEN

FOR women first were made for men,  
 Not men for them : It follows, then,  
 That men have right to every one,  
 And they no freedom of their own ;  
 And therefore men have power to choose,  
 But they no charter to refuse.

S. BUTLER (*Hudibras*).

## 139. THE MORN

THE sun had long since, in the lap  
 Of Thetis, taken out his nap,  
 And, like a lobster boiled, the morn  
 From black to red began to turn.

S. BUTLER (*Hudibras*).

## 140. MODERN PROWESS IN WAR

'Tis true, our modern way of war  
 Is grown more politic by far,  
 But not so resolute and bold,  
 Nor tied to honour as the old.  
 For now they laugh at giving battle,  
 Unless it be to herds of cattle,  
 Or fighting convoys of provision,  
 The whole design o' the expedition.

For 'tis not now, who's stout and bold ?  
 But who bears hunger best and cold ?  
 And he's approved the most deserving  
 Who longest can hold out at starving :  
 And he that routs most pigs and cows  
 The formidablest man of prowess.

So th' emperor Caligula,  
 That triumphed o'er the British sea  
 Took crabs and oysters prisoners,  
 And lobsters, 'stead of cuirassiers ;  
 Engaged his legions in fierce bustles,  
 With periwinkles, prawns and mussels,  
 And led his troops with furious gallops,  
 To charge whole regiments of scallops ;  
 Not like their ancient way of war,  
 To wait on his triumphal car ;  
 But when he went to dine or sup,  
 More bravely ate his captives up,  
 And left all war, by his example,  
 Reduced to victualling of a camp well.

S. BUTLER (*Hudibras*).



## 141. A JACOBITE TOAST

God bless the King!—I mean the Faith's Defender;  
 God bless (no harm in blessing) the Pretender!  
 But who Pretender is, or who is King,  
 God bless us all!—that's quite another thing.

J. BYROM.

## 142. ALAS! THE LOVE OF WOMEN.

ALAS! the love of women! it is known  
 To be a lovely and a fearful thing;  
 For all of theirs upon that die is thrown,  
 And if 'tis lost, life hath no more to bring  
 To them but mockeries of the past alone,  
 'And their revenge is as the tiger's spring,  
 Deadly, and quick, and crushing; yet, as real  
 Torture is theirs, what they inflict they feel.

GEORGE GORDON, LORD BYRON (*Don Juan*).

## 143. AVE MARIA

Ave Maria! blessèd be the hour!  
 The time, the clime, the spot, where I so oft  
 Have felt that moment in its fullest power  
 Sink o'er the earth so beautiful and soft,  
 While swung the deep bell in the distant tower,  
 Or the faint dying day-hymn stole aloft,  
 And not a breath crept through the rosy air,  
 And yet the forest leaves seemed stirred with prayer.

Ave Maria! 'tis the hour of prayer!

Ave Maria! 'tis the hour of love!

Ave Maria! may our spirits dare

Look up to thine and to thy Son's above!

Ave Maria! oh that face so fair!

Those downcast eyes beneath the Almighty dove—  
 What though 'tis but a pictured image strike,  
 That painting is no idol,—'tis too like.

LORD BYRON (*Don Juan*).

## 144. MAN'S LOVE A THING APART

MAN's love is of man's life a thing apart,  
 'Tis woman's whole existence; man may range  
 The court, camp, church, the vessel, and the mart;  
 Sword, gown, gain, glory, offer in exchange  
 Pride, fame, ambition, to fill up his heart,  
 And few there are whom these cannot estrange;  
 Men have all these resources, we but one,  
 To love again, and be again undone.

LORD BYRON (*Don Juan*).

## 145. OH, TALK NOT TO ME OF A NAME GREAT IN STORY

OH, 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 ?  
 Oh 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.

## 146. ROLL ON, THOU DEEP AND DARK BLUE OCEAN

ROLL on, thou deep and dark blue Ocean—roll !  
 Ten thousand fleets sweep over thee in vain ;  
 Man marks the earth with ruin—his control  
 Stops with the shore ; upon the watery plain  
 The wrecks are all thy deed, nor doth remain  
 A shadow of man's ravage, save his own,  
 When, for a moment, like a drop of rain,  
 He sinks into thy depths with bubbling groan,  
 Without a grave, unknelled, uncoffined, and unknown.  
 His steps are not upon thy paths,—thy fields  
 Are not a spoil for him,—thou dost arise  
 And shake him from thee ; the vile strength he wields  
 For earth's destruction thou dost all despise,  
 Spurning him from thy bosom to the skies,  
 And send'st him, shivering in thy playful spray  
 And howling, to his Gods, where haply lies  
 His petty hope in some near port or bay,  
 And dashest him again to earth :—there let him lay.

Thy shores are empires, changed in all save thee—  
 Assyria, Greece, Rome, Carthage, what are they ?  
 Thy waters washed them power while they were free,  
 And many a tyrant since ; their shores obey  
 The stranger, slave, or savage ; their decay  
 Has dried up realms to deserts :—not so thou ;—  
 Unchangeable, save to thy wild waves' play,  
 Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow :  
 Such as creation's dawn beheld, thou rollest now.

Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form  
 Glasses itself in tempests ; in all time,—  
 Calm or convulsed, in breeze, or gale, or storm,  
 Leing the pole, or in the torrid clime  
 Dark-heaving—boundless, endless, and sublime—  
 The image of eternity, the throne  
 Of the Invisible ; even from out thy slime  
 The monsters of the deep are made ; each zone  
 Obeys thee ; thou goest forth, dread, fathomless, alone.

And I have loved thee, Ocean ! and my joy  
 Of youthful sports was on thy breast to be  
 Borne, like thy bubbles, onward : from a boy  
 I wanted with thy breakers—they to me  
 Were a delight ; and if the freshening sea  
 Made them a terror—'twas a pleasing fear,  
 For I was as it were a child of thee,  
 And trusted to thy billows far and near,  
 And laid my hand upon thy mane—as I do here.

LORD BYRON (*Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*).

#### 147. SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY, LIKE THE NIGHT

SHE walks in beauty, like the night  
 Of cloudless climes and starry skies ;  
 And all that's best of dark and bright  
 Meet in her aspect and her eyes :  
 Thus mellowed to that tender light  
 Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,  
 Had half impaired 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.

#### 148. SO WE'LL GO NO MORE A-ROVING

So we'll go no more a-roving  
 So late into the night,  
 Though the heart be still as loving,  
 And the moon be still as bright.

For the sword outwears its sheath,  
 And the soul wears out the breast,  
 And the heart must pause to breathe,  
 And love itself have rest.

Though the night was made for loving,  
 And the day returns too soon,  
 Yet we'll go no more a-roving  
 By the light of the moon.

LORD BYRON.

#### 149. THE DESTRUCTION OF SENNACHERIB

THE Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,  
 And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold ;  
 And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,  
 When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.

Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green,  
 That host with their banners at sunset were seen :  
 Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown,  
 That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,  
 And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed ;  
 And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,  
 And their hearts but once heaved, and for ever grew still !  
 And there lay the steed with his nostril all wide,  
 But through it there rolled not the breath of his pride ;  
 And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf,  
 And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf.

And there lay the rider distorted and pale,  
 With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail :  
 And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,  
 The lances unlifted, the trumpet unblown.

And the widows of Ashur are loud in their wail,  
 And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal ;  
 And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,  
 Hath melted like snow in the glance of the Lord !

LORD BYRON.

#### 150. THE CASTLED CRAG OF DRACHENFELS

THE castled crag of Drachenfels  
 Frowns o'er the wide and winding Rhine,  
 Whose breast of waters broadly swells  
 Between the banks which bear the vine,  
 And hills all rich with blossomed trees,  
 And fields which promise corn and wine,  
 And scattered cities crowning these,  
 Whose far white walls along them shine,  
 Have strewed a scene, which I should see  
 With double joy wert *thou* with me.

And peasant girls, with deep blue eyes,  
 And hands which offer early flowers,  
 Walk smiling o'er this paradise ;  
 Above, the frequent feudal towers  
 Through green leaves lift their walls of grey ;  
 And many a rock which steeply lowers,  
 And noble arch in proud decay,  
 Look o'er this vale of vintage-bowers ;  
 But one thing want these banks of Rhine,—  
 Thy gentle hand to clasp in mine !

LORD BYRON (*Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*).

### 151. THE ISLES OF GREECE

THE isles of Greece, the isles of Greece !  
 Where burning Sappho loved and sung,  
 Where grew the arts of war and peace,  
 Where Delos rose, and Phoebus sprung !  
 Eternal summer gilds them yet,  
 But all, except their sun, is set.

The mountains look on Marathon—  
 And Marathon looks on the sea ;  
 And musing there an hour alone,  
 I dreamed that Greece might still be free ;  
 For standing on the Persians' grave,  
 I could not deem myself a slave.

You have the Pyrrhic dance as yet ;  
 Where is the Pyrrhic phalanx gone ?  
 Of two such lessons, why forget  
 The nobler and the manlier one ?  
 You have the letters Cadmus gave—  
 Think ye he meant them for a slave ?

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine !  
 Our virgins dance beneath the shade—  
 I see their glorious black eyes shine ;  
 But gazing on each glowing maid,  
 My own the burning tear-drop laves,  
 To think such breasts must suckle slaves.

Place me on Sunium's marbled steep,  
 Where nothing, save the waves and I,  
 May hear our mutual murmurs sweep ;  
 There, swan-like, let me sing and die :  
 A land of slaves shall ne'er be mine—  
 Dash down yon cup of Samian wine !

LORD BYRON (*Don Juan*).

## 152. THERE BE NONE OF BEAUTY'S DAUGHTERS

THERE be none of Beauty's  
daughters

With a magic like thee ;  
And like sweet music on the waters  
Is thy sweet voice to me :  
When, as if its sound were causing  
The charmèd ocean's pausing,  
The waves lie still and gleaming,  
And the lulled winds seem dream-  
ing :

And the midnight moon is weav-  
ing

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.

## 153. THERE'S NOT A JOY THE WORLD CAN GIVE

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 shivered 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 distract the breast,  
Through midnight hours that yield no more their former hope of rest ;  
'Tis but as ivy-leaves around the ruined 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 vanished scene ;  
As springs in deserts found seem sweet, all brackish though they be,  
So midst the withered waste of life, those tears would flow to me.

LORD BYRON.

## 154. THE EVE OF WATERLOO

THERE was a sound of revelry by night,  
And Belgium's capital had gathered then  
Her Beauty and her Chivalry, and bright  
The lamps shone o'er fair women and brave men ;  
A thousand hearts beat happily ; and when  
Music arose with its voluptuous swell,  
Soft eyes looked love to eyes which spake again,  
And all went merry as a marriage bell ;  
But hush ! hark ! a deep sound strikes like a rising knell !

Did ye not hear it?—No; 'twas but the wind,  
 Or the car rattling o'er the stony street;  
 On with the dance! let joy be unconfined;  
 No sleep till morn, when Youth and Pleasure meet  
 To chase the glowing Hours with flying feet—  
 But hark!—that heavy sound breaks in once more,  
 As if the clouds its echo would repeat;  
 And nearer, clearer, deadlier than before!  
 Arm! Arm! it is—it is—the cannon's opening roar!

Within a windowed niche of that high hall  
 Sate Brunswick's fated chieftain; he did hear  
 That sound the first amidst the festival,  
 And caught its tone with Death's prophetic ear;  
 And when they smiled because he deemed it near,  
 His heart more truly knew that peal too well  
 Which stretched his father on a bloody bier,  
 And roused the vengeance blood alone could quell;  
 He rushed into the field, and, foremost fighting, fell.

Ah! then and there was hurrying to and fro,  
 And gathering tears, and tremblings of distress,  
 And cheeks all pale, which but an hour ago  
 Blushed at the praise of their own loveliness;  
 And there were sudden partings, such as press  
 The life from out young hearts, and choking sighs  
 Which ne'er might be repeated; who could guess  
 If ever more should meet those mutual eyes,  
 Since upon night so sweet such awful morn could rise?

And there was mounting in hot haste: the steed,  
 The mustering squadron, and the clattering car,  
 Went pouring forward with impetuous speed,  
 And swiftly forming in the ranks of war;  
 And the deep thunder peal on peal afar;  
 And near, the beat of the alarming drum  
 Roused up the soldier ere the morning star;  
 While thronged the citizens with terror dumb,  
 Or whispering, with white lips—'The foe! they come! they come!'

And wild and high the 'Cameron's gathering' rose!  
 The war-note of Lochiel, which Albyn's hills  
 Have heard, and heard, too, have her Saxon foes:—  
 How in the noon of night that pibroch thrills,  
 Savage and shrill! But with the breath which fills  
 Their mountain-pipe, so fill the mountaineers  
 With the fierce native daring which instils  
 The stirring memory of a thousand years,  
 And Evan's, Donald's fame rings in each clansman's ears!

And Ardennes waves above them her green leaves,  
 Dewy with nature's tear-drops as they pass,  
 Grieving, if aught inanimate e'er grieves,  
 Over the unreturning brave,—alas!  
 Ere evening to be trodden like the grass  
 Which now beneath them, but above shall grow  
 In its next verdure, when this fiery mass  
 Of living valour, rolling on the foe  
 And burning with high hope shall moulder cold and low.

Last noon beheld them full of lusty life,  
 Last eve in Beauty's circle proudly gay,  
 The midnight brought the signal-sound of strife,  
 The morn the marshalling in arms,—the day  
 Battle's magnificently stern array!  
 The thunder-clouds close o'er it, which when rent  
 The earth is covered thick with other clay,  
 Which her own clay shall cover, heaped and pent,  
 Rider and horse,—friend, foe,—in one red burial blent!  
 LORD BYRON (*Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*).

155. FROM 'STANZAS TO AUGUSTA'

THOUGH the day of my destiny's over,  
 And the star of my fate hath declined,  
 Thy soft heart refused to discover  
 The faults which so many could find;  
 Though thy soul with my grief was acquainted,  
 It shrunk not to share it with me,  
 And the love which my spirit hath painted  
 It never hath found but in *thee*.

Yet I blame not the world, nor despise it,  
 Nor the war of the many with one;  
 If my soul was not fitted to prize it,  
 'Twas folly not sooner to shun:  
 And if dearly that error hath cost me,  
 And more than I once could foresee,  
 I have found that, whatever it lost me,  
 It could not deprive me of *thee*.

From the wreck of the past, which hath perished,  
 Thus much I at least may recall,  
 It hath taught me that what I most cherished,  
 Deserved to be dearest of all:  
 In the desert a fountain is springing,  
 In the wide waste there still is a tree,  
 And a bird in the solitude singing,  
 Which speaks to my spirit of *thee*.

LORD BYRON.



## 156. TO THE MEMORY OF KIRKE WHITE

UNHAPPY White ! while life was in its spring,  
 And thy young muse just waved her joyous wing,  
 The spoiler swept that soaring lyre away,  
 Which else had sounded an immortal lay.  
 Oh ! what a noble heart was here undone,  
 When Science' self destroyed her favourite son !  
 Yes, she too much indulged thy fond pursuit,  
 She sowed the seeds, but death has reaped the fruit.  
 'Twas thine own genius gave the final blow,  
 And helped to plant the wound that laid thee low :  
 So the struck eagle, stretched upon the plain,  
 No more through rolling clouds to soar again,  
 Viewed his own feather on the fatal dart,  
 And winged the shaft that quivered in his heart ;  
 Keen were his pangs, but keener far to feel  
 He nursed the pinion which impelled the steel ;  
 While the same plumage that had warmed his nest  
 Drank the last life-drop of his bleeding breast.

LORD BYRON

*(English Bards and Scotch Reviewers).*

## 157. WHEN WE TWO PARTED

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.

## 158. 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 horseman hard behind us  
ride ;

Should they our steps discover,  
Then who will cheer my bonny  
bride

When they have slain her  
lover ?'

Outspoke 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 armèd 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, oh ! too strong for human  
hand,

The tempest gathered o'er her.

And still they rode amidst the  
roar

Of waters fast prevailing :  
Lord Ullin reached that fatal  
shore,—

His wrath was changed to  
wailing.

For sore dismayed, through storm  
and shade,

His child he did discover :  
One lovely hand she stretched for  
aid,

And one was round her lover.

'Come back ! come back !' he  
cried in grief

Across the stormy water :  
'And I'll forgive your Highland  
chief,

My daughter ! oh my daughter !'

'Twas vain : the loud waves lashed  
the shore,

Return or aid preventing ;  
The waters wild went o'er his  
child,

And he was left lamenting.

T. CAMPBELL.

## 159. FROM 'THE LAST MAN'

ALL worldly shapes shall melt in  
gloom,

The Sun himself must die,  
Before this mortal shall assume  
Its Immortality !

I saw a vision in my sleep,  
That gave my spirit strength to  
sweep

Adown the gulf of Time !  
I saw the last of human mould  
That shall Creation's death behold  
As Adam saw her prime !

‘ The spirit shall return to Him  
That gave its heavenly spark ;  
Yet think not, Sun, it shall be dim  
When thou thyself art dark !  
No ! it shall live again and shine  
In bliss unknown to beams of  
thine,

By Him recalled to breath  
Who captive led captivity,  
Who robbed the grave of Victory,  
And took the sting from Death !

‘ Go, Sun, while Mercy holds me  
up

On Nature's awful waste  
To drink this last and bitter  
cup

Of grief that man shall taste—  
Go, tell the night that hides thy  
face

Thou saw'st the last of Adam's  
race

On Earth's sepulchral clod  
The darkening universe defy  
To quench his immortality,  
Or shake his trust in God ! ’

T. CAMPBELL.

## 160. FLORINE

COULD I bring back lost youth again  
And be what I have been,  
I'd court you in a gallant strain,  
My young and fair Florine.

But mine's the chilling age that chides  
Devoted rapture's glow,  
And Love—that conquers all besides—  
Finds Time a conquering foe.

Farewell ! we're severed by our fate  
As far as night from noon ;  
You came into the world too late,  
And I depart so soon.

T. CAMPBELL.

## 161. FROM 'MEN OF ENGLAND'

MEN of England ! who inherit  
Rights that cost your sires their blood !  
Men whose undegenerate spirit  
Has been proved on land and flood

By the foes ye've fought, uncounted,  
By the glorious deeds ye've done.  
Trophies captured—breaches mounted,  
Navies conquered—kingdoms won !

Yet, remember, England gathers  
 Hence but fruitless wreaths of fame,  
 If the freedom of your fathers  
 Glow not in your hearts the same.

What are monuments of bravery,  
 Where no public virtues bloom?  
 What avail in lands of slavery  
 Trophied temples, arch, and tomb?

T. CAMPBELL.

## 162. SONG OF HYBRIAS THE CRETAN

My wealth's a burly spear and brand,  
 And a right good shield of hides untanned  
 Which on my arm I buckle:  
 With these I plough, I reap, I sow,  
 With these I make the sweet vintage flow,  
 And all around me truckle.

But your wights that take no pride to wield  
 A massy spear and well-made shield,  
 Nor joy to draw the sword—  
 Oh, I bring those heartless, hapless drones,  
 Down in a trice on their marrow-bones  
 To call me King and Lord.

T. CAMPBELL.

## 163. THE 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 flushed  
 To anticipate the scene;  
 And her van the fleeter rushed  
 O'er the deadly space between.  
 'Hearts of oak!' our captain  
 cried; when each gun  
 From its adamant 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 shattered sail,  
 Or in conflagration pale  
 Light the gloom.

Out spoke the victor then  
 As he hailed 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 blessed 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 looked 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,  
 While 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 that 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.

#### 164. 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 arrayed,  
 Each horseman drew his battle-blade,  
 And furious every charger neighed  
     To join the dreadful revelry.

Then shook the hills with thunder riven,  
 Then rushed the steed to battle driven,  
 And louder than the bolts of heaven  
     Far flashed the red artillery.

But redder yet that light shall glow  
 On Linden's hills of stained 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.

### 165. DRINKING-SONG OF MUNICH

SWEET Iser! were thy sunny realm  
 And flowery gardens mine,  
 Thy waters I would shade with  
 elm

To prop the tender vine;  
 My golden flagons I would fill  
 With rosy draughts from every  
 hill;

And under every myrtle bower  
 My gay companions should pro-  
 long

The laugh, the revel, and the  
 song,

To many an idle hour.

Like rivers crimsoned with the  
 beam

Of yonder planet bright  
 Our balmy cups should ever  
 stream

Profusion of delight;  
 No care should touch the mellow  
 heart,

And sad or sober none depart;  
 For wine can triumph over woe,  
 And Love and Bacchus, brother  
 powers,

Could build in Iser's sunny bowers  
 A paradise below.

T. CAMPBELL.

### 166. YE MARINERS OF ENGLAND

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.

## 167. FOLLOW THY FAIR SUN

FOLLOW thy fair sun, unhappy  
     shadow,  
     Though thou be black as night,  
     And she made all of light ;  
 Yet follow thy fair sun, unhappy  
     shadow !  
 Follow her, whose light thy light  
     depriveth !  
     Though here thou livest dis-  
     graced,  
     And she in heaven is placed ;  
 Yet follow her whose light the  
     world reviveth !

Follow those pure beams, whose  
     beauty burneth !  
     That so have scorched thee ;  
     As thou still black must be,  
 Till her kind beams thy black to  
     brightness turneth !

Follow her, while yet her glory  
     shineth !  
     There comes a luckless night  
     That will dim all her light ;  
 And this the black unhappy shade  
     divineth.

Follow still, since so thy Fates ordained !

The sun must have his shade,

Till both at once do fade ;

The sun still proved, the shadow still disdained !

T. CAMPION.

## 168. FOLLOW YOUR SAINT

FOLLOW your saint. Follow, with accents sweet !  
 Haste you, sad notes, fall at her flying feet !  
 There, wrapped in cloud of sorrow, pity move,  
 And tell the ravisher of my soul I perish for her love.  
 But if she scorns my never-ceasing pain,  
 Then burst with sighing in her signat, and ne'er return again !  
 All that I sang, still to her praise did tend.  
 Still she was first, still she my songs did end ;  
 Yet she my love and music both doth fly,  
 The music that her echo is, and beauty's sympathy :  
 Then let my notes pursue her scornful flight !  
 It shall suffice that they were breathed and died for her delight.

T. CAMPION.

## 169. MY SWEETEST LESBIA

My sweetest Lesbia, let us live and love,  
 And though the sager sort our deeds reprove,  
 Let us not weigh them. Heaven's great lamps do dive  
 Into their west, and straight again revive ;  
 But, soon as once set is our little light,  
 Then must we sleep one ever-during night.

If all would lead their lives in love like me,  
 Then bloody swords and armour should not be ;  
 No drum nor trumpet peaceful sleeps should move,  
 Unless alarm came from the Camp of Love.  
 But fools do live and waste their little light,  
 And seek with pain their ever-during night.

When timely death my life and fortune ends,  
 Let not my hearse be vext with mourning friends ;  
 But let all lovers, rich in triumph, come  
 And with sweet pastimes grace my happy tomb :  
 And, Lesbia, close up thou my little light,  
 And crown with love my ever-during night.

T. CAMPION.

## 170. LAURA

ROSE-CHEEKED Laura, come ;  
 Sing thou smoothly with thy  
 beauty's  
 Silent music, either other  
 Sweetly gracing.

Lovely forms do flow  
 From concert divinely framèd ;  
 Heaven is music, and thy beauty's  
 Birth is heavenly.

These dull notes we sing  
 Discords need for helps to grace  
 them ;  
 Only beauty purely loving  
 Knows no discord,  
 But still moves delight,  
 Like clear springs renewed by  
 flowing,  
 Ever perfect, ever in them-  
 Selves eternal.

T. CAMPION.

## 171. THE MAN UPRIGHT OF LIFE

THE man upright of life, whose guiltless heart is free  
 From all dishonest deeds, or thought of vanity ;

The man whose silent days in harmless joys are spent,  
 Whom hopes cannot delude, nor sorrow discontent ;

That man needs neither towers nor armour for defence,  
 Nor secret vaults, to fly from thunder's violence :

He, only, can behold with unaffrighted eyes  
 The horrors of the deep, and terrors of the skies.



Thus, scorning all the cares that fate or fortune brings,  
 He makes the heaven his book ; his wisdom, heavenly things ;  
 Good thoughts, his only friends ; his wealth, a well-spent age ;  
 The earth his sober inn, and quiet pilgrimage.

T. CAMPION.

### 172. THINK'ST THOU TO SEDUCE ME

THINK'ST thou to seduce me then with words that have no meaning ?  
 Parrots so can learn to prate, our speech by pieces gleaning :  
 Nurses teach their children so about the time of weaning.

Learn to speak first, then to woo : to wooing much pertaineth :  
 He that courts us, wanting art, soon falters when he feigneth,  
 Looks asquint on his discourse and smiles when he complaineth.

Skilful anglers hide their hooks, fit baits for every season,  
 But with crooked pins fish'st thou, as babes do that want reason.  
 Gudgeons only can be caught with such poor tricks of treason.

T. CAMPION.

### 173. THOU ART NOT FAIR

THOU art not fair, for all thy red and white,  
 For all those rosy ornaments in thee ;  
 Thou art not sweet, though made of mere delight,  
 Nor fair, nor sweet—unless thou pity me.  
 I will not soothe thy fancies : thou shalt prove  
 That beauty is no beauty without love.

Yet love not me, nor seek thou to allure  
 My thoughts with beauty, were it more divine ;  
 Thy smiles and kisses I cannot endure,  
 I'll not be wrapped up in those arms of thine :  
 Now show it, if thou be a woman right,—  
 Embrace and kiss and love me in despite !

T. CAMPION.

### 174. TURN ALL THY THOUGHTS TO EYES

TURN all thy thoughts to eyes,  
 Turn all thy hairs to ears,  
 Change all thy friends to spies  
 And all thy joys to fears :  
 True love will yet be free  
 In spite of jealousy.

Turn darkness into day,  
 Conjectures into truth,  
 Believe what th' envious say,  
 Let age interpret youth :  
 True love will yet be free  
 In spite of jealousy.

Wrest every word and look,  
 Rack every hidden thought,  
 Or fish with golden hook ;  
 True love cannot be caught :  
 For that will still be free  
 In spite of jealousy.

T. CAMPION.

## 175. WERE MY HEART AS SOME MEN'S ARE

WERE my heart as some men's are, thy errors would not move me;  
 But thy faults I curious find, and speak because I love thee:  
 Patience is a thing divine, and far, I grant, above me.

Foes sometimes befriend us more, our blacker deeds objecting,  
 Than the obsequious bosom-guest with false respect affecting:  
 Friendship is the Glass of Truth, our hidden stains detecting.

When I use of eyes enjoy, and inward light of reason,  
 Thy observer will I be and censor, but in season:  
 Hidden mischief to conceal in state and love is treason.

T. CAMPION.

## 176. WHEN TO HER LUTE CORINNA SINGS

WHEN to her lute Corinna sings,  
 Her voice revives the leaden  
 strings,  
 And doth in highest notes appear,  
 As any challenged echo clear:  
 But when she doth of mourning  
 speak,  
 E'en with her sighs, the strings  
 do break.

And as her lute doth live or die,  
 Led by her passion, so must I;  
 For when of pleasure she doth  
 sing,  
 My thoughts enjoy a sudden  
 spring,  
 But if she doth of sorrow speak,  
 E'en from my heart the strings  
 do break.

T. CAMPION.

## 177. THE PILOT THAT WEATHERED THE STORM

IF hushed the loud whirlwind that ruffled the deep,  
 The sky if no longer loud tempests deform;  
 When our perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep?  
 No! Here 's to the Pilot that weathered the storm!

And shall not his memory to Britain be dear,  
 Whose example, with envy, all nations behold;  
 A statesman unbiased by interest or fear,  
 By power uncorrupted, untainted by gold?

Who, when terror and doubt through the universe reigned,  
 While rapine and treason their standards unfurled,  
 The heart and the hopes of his country maintained,  
 And one kingdom preserved 'midst the wreck of the world.

Lo! Pitt, when the course of thy greatness is o'er,  
 Thy talents, thy virtues, we fondly recall!  
 Now justly we prize thee, when lost we deplore;  
 Admired in thy zenith, but loved in thy fall.

G. CANNING.

## 178. A POLITICAL DISPATCH

IN matters of commerce the fault of the Dutch  
 Is offering too little and asking too much.  
 The French are with equal advantage content,  
 So we clap on Dutch bottoms just 20 per cent.  
     20 per cent, 20 per cent,  
 We clap on Dutch bottoms just 20 per cent.  
 Vous frappez Falck avec 20 per cent.

G. CANNING.

## 179. SAPPHICS

THE FRIEND OF HUMANITY AND THE KNIFE-GRINDER

*Friend of Humanity.*

NEEDY Knife-grinder! whither are you going?  
 Rough is the road, your wheel is out of order—  
 Bleak blows the blast;—your hat has got a hole in't,  
     So have your breeches.

Weary Knife-grinder! little think the proud ones  
 Who in their coaches roll along the turnpike-  
 Road, what hard work 'tis crying all day, 'Knives and  
     Scissors to grind O!'

Tell me, Knife-grinder, how you came to grind knives:  
 Did some rich man tyrannically use you?  
 Was it the 'Squire? or Parson of the Parish?  
     Or the Attorney?

Was it the 'Squire, for killing of his game? or  
 Covetous Parson, for his tithes distraining?  
 Or roguish Lawyer, made you lose your little  
     All in a lawsuit?

(Have you not read the Rights of Man, by Tom Paine?)  
 Drops of compassion tremble on my eyelids,  
 Ready to fall, as soon as you have told your  
     Pitiful story.

*Knife-grinder.*

Story! God bless you! I have none to tell, Sir,  
 Only last night a-drinking at the 'Chequers',  
 This poor old hat and breeches, as you see, were  
     Torn in a scuffle.

Constables came up for to take me into  
 Custody; they took me before the justice;  
 Justice Oldmixon put me in the parish-  
     Stocks for a vagrant.

I should be glad to drink your Honour's health in  
 A Pot of Beer, if you will give me Sixpence ;  
 But for my part, I never love to meddle  
 With politics, Sir.

*Friend of Humanity.*

- I give thee Sixpence ! I will see thee damned first—  
 Wretch ! whom no sense of wrongs can rouse to vengeance—  
 Sordid, unfeeling, reprobate, degraded,  
 Spiritless outcast !

(*Kicks the Knife-grinder, overturns his wheel, and exit in a transport of  
 Republican Enthusiasm and Universal Philanthropy.*)

G. CANNING.

### 180. ASK ME NO MORE WHERE JOVE BESTOWS

<p>ASK me no more where Jove          bestows,          When June is past, the fading rose ;          For in your beauty's orient deep          These flowers, as in their causes,          sleep.</p> <p>Ask me no more whither do stray          The golden atoms of the day ;          For in pure love heaven did          prepare          Those powders to enrich your          hair.</p>	<p>Ask me no more whither doth          haste          The nightingale when May is past ;          For in your sweet dividing throat          She winters, and keeps warm her          note.</p> <p>Ask me no more where those stars          'light          That downwards fall in dead of          night ;          For in your eyes they sit, and there          Fixèd become as in their sphere.</p>
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Ask me no more if east or west  
 The Phoenix builds her spicy nest ;  
 For unto you at last she flies,  
 And in your fragrant bosom dies. T. CAREW.

### 181. MEDIOCRITY IN LOVE REJECTED

GIVE me more love, or more disdain ;  
 The torrid or the frozen zone  
 Bring equal ease unto my pain ;  
 The temperate affords me none :  
 Either extreme, of love or hate,  
 Is sweeter than a calm estate.

Give me a storm ; if it be love—  
 Like Danaë in that golden shower,  
 I'll swim in pleasure ; if it prove  
 Disdain, that torrent will devour  
 My vulture hopes ; and he's possessed  
 Of heaven, that's from hell released.  
 Then crown my joys, or cure my pain ;  
 Give me more love, or more disdain. T. CAREW.

## 182. DISDAIN RETURNED

HE that loves a rosy cheek,  
Or a coral lip admires ;  
Or from star-like 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.

## 183. UNGRATEFUL BEAUTY THREATENED

Know, Celia, since thou art so proud,  
'Twas I that gave thee thy renown ;  
Thou hadst in the forgotten crowd  
Of common beauties lived unknown,  
Had not my verse exhaled thy name,  
And with it impeded the wings of Fame.

That killing power is none of thine :  
I gave it to thy voice and eyes ;  
Thy sweets, thy graces, all are mine ;  
Thou art my star, shin'st in my skies ;  
Then dart not from thy borrowed sphere  
Lightning on him that fixed thee there.

Tempt me with such affrights no more ;  
Lest what I made I uncreate ;  
Let fools thy mystic forms adore,  
I know thee in thy mortal state :  
Wise poets, that wrapt Truth in tales,  
Knew her themselves through all her veils.

T. CAREW.

## 184. MARK HOW THE BASHFUL MORN

MARK how the bashful morn in vain  
Courts the amorous marigold  
With sighing blasts and weeping rain,  
Yet she refuses to unfold ;  
But when the planet of the day  
Approacheth with his powerful ray  
Then she spreads, then she receives  
His warmer beams into her virgin leaves.

So shalt thou thrive in love, fond boy ;  
If thy tears and sighs discover  
Thy grief, thou never shalt enjoy  
The just reward of a bold lover.

But when with moving accents thou  
Shalt constant faith and service vow,  
Thy Celia shalt receive those charms  
With open ears, and with unfolded arms.

T. CAREW.

## 185. TO HIS INCONSTANT MISTRESS

WHEN thou, poor Excommunicate  
 From all the joys of Love, shalt see  
 The full reward and glorious fate  
 Which my strong faith shall purchase me,  
 Then curse thine own inconstancy!

A fairer hand than thine shall cure  
 That heart which thy false oaths did wound;  
 And to my soul a soul more pure  
 Than thine shall by Love's hand be bound,  
 And both with equal glory crowned.

Then shalt thou weep, entreat, complain  
 To Love, as I did once to thee;  
 When all thy tears shall be in vain  
 As mine were then: for thou shalt be  
 Damned for thy false apostasy.

T. CAREW.

## 186. A LOYAL SONG

[SUNG AT THE THEATRES ROYAL. FOR TWO VOICES *Published 1742*].

GOD save great George our King,  
 Long live our noble King,  
 God save the King!  
 Send him victorious,  
 Happy and glorious,  
 Long to reign over us,  
 God save the King!

O Lord, our God, arise,  
 Scatter our enemies,  
 And make them fall;  
 Confound their politics,  
 Frustrate their knavish tricks!  
 On Thee our hopes we fix—  
 God save us all!

Thy choicest gifts in store,  
 On George be pleased to pour,  
 Long may he reign!  
 May he defend our laws;  
 And ever give us cause  
 With heart and voice to sing  
 God save the King!

H. CAREY.

## 187. 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 them;  
 Her mother she sells laces long  
 To such as please to buy them:  
 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 and all  
I'll give it to my honey :  
And would it were ten thousand  
pounds,

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.

## 188. FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE CHAMPAIGN

FROM the mountains to the Champaign,  
By the glens and hills along,  
Comes a rustling and a tramping,  
Comes a motion as of song :  
And this undetermined roving  
Brings delight, and brings good heed ;  
Life's no resting, but a moving,  
Let thy life be Deed on Deed !

Keep not standing fixed and rooted,  
Briskly venture, briskly roam :  
Head and hand, where'er thou foot it,  
And stout heart, are still at home.  
In each land the sun does visit  
We are gay, whate'er betide :  
To give room for wandering is it  
That the world was made so wide.

T. CARLYLE.

## 189. TO-DAY

So here hath been dawning  
 Another blue Day :  
 Think wilt thou let it  
 Slip useless away ?

Out of Eternity  
 This new Day is born ;  
 Into Eternity,  
 At night, will return.

Behold it aforetime  
 No eye ever did :  
 So soon it for ever  
 From all eyes is hid.

Here hath been dawning  
 Another blue Day :  
 Think, wilt thou let it  
 Slip useless away ?

T. CARLYLE.

## 190. CUI BONO

WHAT is Hope ? A smiling rainbow  
 Children follow through the wet ;  
 'Tis not here, still yonder, yonder :  
 Never urchin found it yet.

What is Life ? A thawing iceboard  
 On a sea with sunny shore ;  
 Gay we sail ; it melts beneath us ;  
 We are sunk, and seen no more.

What is Man ? A foolish baby,  
 Vainly strives, and fights, and frets ;  
 Demanding all, deserving nothing ;  
 One small grave is what he gets.

T. CARLYLE.

## 191. CORIDON'S SONG

OH, the sweet contentment  
 The countryman doth find.  
 High trolollie lollie loe,  
 High trolollie lee,  
 That quiet contemplation  
 Possesseth all my mind :  
*Then care away,  
 And wend along with me.*

For courts are full of flattery,  
 As hath too oft been tried ;  
 High trolollie lollie loe,  
 High trolollie lee,  
 The city full of wantonness,  
 And both are full of pride.  
*Then care away,  
 And wend along with me.*

But oh, the honest countryman  
 Speaks truly from his heart,  
 High trolollie lollie loe,  
 High trolollie lee,  
 His pride is in his tillage,  
 His horses and his cart :  
*Then care away,  
 And wend along with me.*

Our clothing is good sheepskins,  
 Grey russet for our wives,  
 High trolollie lollie loe,  
 High trolollie lee,  
 'Tis warmth and not gay clothing  
 That doth prolong our lives ;  
*Then care away,  
 And wend along with me.*



The ploughman, though he labour  
hard,  
Yet on the holiday,  
High trollicie lollie loe,  
High trollicie lee,  
No emperor so merrily  
Does pass his time away ;  
*Then care away,  
And wend along with me.*

To recompense our tillage  
The heavens afford us showers ;  
High trollicie lollie loe,  
High trollicie lee,  
And for our sweet refreshments  
The earth affords us bowers :  
*Then care away,  
And wend along with me.*

The cuckoo and the nightingale  
Full merrily do sing,  
High trollicie lollie loe,  
High trollicie lee,  
And with their pleasant rounde-  
lays  
Bid welcome to the spring :  
*Then care away,  
And wend along with me.*

This is not half the happiness  
The countryman enjoys ;  
High trollicie lollie loe,  
High trollicie lee,  
Though others think they have  
as much  
Yet he that says so lies :  
*Then come away, turn  
Countryman with me.*

J. CHALKHILL.

## 192. THE MINSTREL'S SONG

OH sing unto my roundelay ;  
Oh drop the briny tear with  
me ;  
Dance no more on holiday ;  
Like a running river be !  
My love is dead,  
Gone to his death-bed,  
All under the willow tree !  
Black his hair as the winter night,  
White his throat as the summer  
snow,  
Red his cheek as the morning  
light,  
Cold he lies in the grave below.  
Sweet his tongue as the throistle's  
note ;  
Quick in dance as thought can  
be ;  
Deft his tabor, cudgel stout,  
Oh, he lies by the willow tree.  
Hark ! the raven flaps his wing  
In the briery dell below ;  
Hark ! the death-owl loud doth  
sing,  
To the night-mares as they go.

See ! the white moon shines on  
high ;  
Whiter is my true love's shroud ;  
Whiter than the morning sky,  
Whiter than the evening cloud.  
Here, upon my true love's grave,  
Shall the barren flowers be laid ;  
Not one holy saint to save  
All the coldness of a maid.  
With my hands I'll twist the  
briers  
Round his holy corpse to gre ;  
Elfin fairy, light your fires,  
Here my body still shall be.  
Come, with acorn-cup and thorn,  
Drain my heartis blood away ;  
Life and all its good I scorn,  
Dance by night, or feast by day.  
Water-witches, crowned with  
reeds,  
Bear me to your deadly tide.  
I die ! I come ! my true love  
waits !—  
Thus the damsel spoke, and  
died.

T. CHATTERTON.

## 193. THE PARSON

A GOOD man was ther of religioun,  
 And was a povre PERSON of a toun ;  
 But riche he was of holy thoght and werk.  
 He was also a lerned man, a clerk,  
 That Cristes gospel trewely wolde preche ;  
 His parissshens devoutly wolde he teche.  
 Benigne he was, and wonder diligent,  
 And in adversitee ful pacient ;  
 And swich he was y-preved ofte sythes.  
 Ful looth were him to cursen for his tythes.

He sette nat his benefice to hyre,  
 And leet his sheep encombred in the myre,  
 And ran to London, un-to seynt Poules,  
 To seken him a chaunterie for soules,  
 Or with a bretherhed to been withholde ;  
 But dwelte at hoom, and kepte wel his folde.

A better preest I trowe that nowher noon is  
 He wayted after no pompe and reverence,  
 Ne maked him a spyced conscience,  
 But Cristes lore, and his apostles twelve,  
 He taught, and first he folwed it himselve.

G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

## 194. THE PERFECT KNIGHT

A KNIGHT ther was, and that a worthy man,  
 That fro the tyme that he first bigan  
 To ryden out, he loved chivalrye,  
 Trouthe and honour, fredom and curteisye,  
 Ful worthy was he in his lordes werre,  
 And therto hadde he riden (no man ferre)  
 As wel in Cristendom as hethenesse,  
 And ever honoured for his worthinesse.

And evermore he hadde a sovereign prys.  
 And though that he were worthy, he was wys,  
 And of his port as meke as is a mayde.  
 He never yet no vileinye ne sayde  
 In al his lyf, un-to no maner wight.  
 He was a verray parfit gentil knight.

G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

## 195. BALADE OF GOOD COUNCIL

FLEE fro the prees, and dwelle with sothfastnesse,  
 Suffyce unto thy good, though hit be smal ;  
 For hord hath hate, and climbing tikelnesse,  
 Prees hath envye, and wele blent overal ;  
 Savour no more than thee bihove shal ;  
 Werk wel thy-self, that other folk canst rede ;  
 And trouthe shal delivere, hit is no drede.

Tempest thee nocht al croked to redresse,  
 In trust of hir that turneth as a bal :  
 Gret reste stant in litel besinesse ;  
 And eek be war to sporne ageyn an al ;  
 Stryve nocht, as doth the crokke with the wal.  
 Daunte thy-self, that dauntest otheres dede ;  
 And trouthe shal delivere, hit is no drede.

That thee is sent, receyve in buxumnesse,  
 The wrastling for this worlde axeth a fal.  
 Her nis non hoom, her nis but wildernesse :  
 Forth, pilgrim, forth ! Forth, beste, out of thy stal !  
 Know thy contree, look up, thank God of al ;  
 Hold the hye wey, and lat thy gost thee lede :  
 And trouthe shal delivere, hit is no drede.

## ENVOY

Therefore, thou vache, leve thyn old wrecchednesse  
 Unto the worlde ; leve now to be thral ;  
 Crye him mercy, that of his hy goodnesse  
 Made thee of nocht, and in especial  
 Draw unto him, and pray in general  
 For thee, and eek for other, hevenlich mede ;  
 And trouthe shal delivere, hit is no drede.

G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

## 196. THE PRIORESS EGLANTINE

THER was also a Nonne, a PRIORESSE,  
 That of hir smyling was ful simple and coy ;  
 Hir gretteste ooth was but by sēynt Loy ;  
 And she was cleped madame Eglentyne.  
 Ful wel she song the service divyne,  
 Entuned in hir nose ful semely ;  
 And Frensh she spak ful faire and fetisly,  
 After the scole of Stratford atte Bowe,  
 For Frensh of Paris was to hir unknowe.

She was so charitable and so pitous,  
 She wolde wepe, if that she sawe a mous  
 Caught in a trappe, if it were deed or bledde.  
 Of smale houndes had she, that she fedde  
 With rosted flesh, or milk and wastel-breed.  
 But sore weep she if oon of hem were deed,  
 Or if men smoot it with a yerde smerte :  
 And al was conscience and tendre herte.  
 Ful semely hir wimpel pinched was ;  
 Hir nose tretys ; hir eyen greye as glas ;  
 Hir mouth ful smal, and ther-to softe and reed ;  
 But sikerly she hadde a fair forheed ;  
 It was almost a spanne brood, I trowe ;  
 For, hardily, she was nat undergrowe.  
 Ful fetis was hir cloke, as I was war.  
 Of smal coral aboute hir arm she bar  
 A peire of bedes, gauded al with grene ;  
 And ther-on heng a broche of gold ful shene,  
 On which ther was first write a crowned A,  
 And after, *Amor vincit omnia*.

G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

#### 197. WHEN THAT APRIL WITH HIS SHOWERS SWEET

WHAN that Aprille with his shoures sote  
 The droghte of Marche hath perced to the rote,  
 And bathed every veyne in swich licour,  
 Of which vertu engendred is the flour ;  
 Whan Zephirus eek with his swete breeth  
 Inspired hath in every holt and heeth  
 The tendre croppes, and the yonge sonne  
 Hath in the Ram his halfe cours y-ronne,  
 And smale fowles maken melodye,  
 That slepen al the night with open yē,  
 (So priketh hem nature in hir corages) :  
 Than longen folk to goon on pilgrimages  
 (And palmers for to seken straunge strondes)  
 To ferne halwes, couthe in sondry londes ;  
 And specially, from every shires ende  
 Of Engelond, to Caunterbury they wende,  
 The holy blisful martir for to seke,  
 That hem hath holpen, whan that they were seke.

G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

## 198. THE DOCTOR OF PHYSIC

WITH us ther was a DOCTOUR OF  
PHISYK,  
In al this world ne was ther noon  
him lyk  
To speke of phisik and of sur-  
gerye ;  
For he was grounded in astrono-  
mye.  
He kepte his pacient a ful greet del  
In houres, by his magik naturel.

Wel coude he fortunen the ascen-  
dent  
Of his images for his pacient.  
He knew the cause of everich  
maladye,  
Were it of hoot or cold, or moiste,  
or drye,  
And where engendred, and of  
what humour ;

He was a verrey parfit practisour.  
G. CHAUCER (*The Canterbury Tales*).

## 199. THE BLIND BOY

OH, say what is that thing called  
light  
Which I can ne'er enjoy ?  
What is the blessing of the sight ?  
Oh, tell your poor blind boy.  
You talk of wondrous things you  
see,  
You say 'The sun shines bright.'  
I feel him warm ; but how can he  
Then make it day or night ?

My day or night myself I make,  
Whene'er I wake or play ;  
And could I ever keep awake  
It would be always day.

With heavy sighs I often hear  
You mourn my hopeless woe :  
But, sure, with patience I may  
bear  
A loss I ne'er can know.

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

C. CIBBER.

## 200. THE DYING-CHILD

HE could not die when trees were  
green,  
For he loved the time too well.  
His little hands, when flowers were  
seen,  
Were held for the bluebell,  
As he was carried o'er the  
green.  
His eye glanced at the white-  
nosed bee ;  
He knew those children of the  
Spring :  
When he was well and on the lea  
He held one in his hands to  
sing,  
Which filled his heart with  
glee.

Infants, the children of the Spring !  
How can an infant die  
When butterflies are on the wing,  
Green grass, and such a sky ?  
How can they die at Spring ?  
He held his hands for daisies  
white,  
And then for violets blue,  
And took them all to bed at night  
That in the green fields grew,  
As childhood's sweet delight.  
And then he shut his little eyes,  
And flowers would notice not ;  
Birds' nests and eggs caused no  
surprise,  
He now no blossoms got :  
They met with plaintive sighs.

When Winter came and blasts did sigh,  
 And bare were plain and tree,  
 As he for ease in bed did lie  
 His soul seemed with the free,  
 He died so quietly.

J. CLARE.

## 201. MY EARLY HOME

HERE sparrows build upon the trees,  
 And stockdove hides her nest ;  
 The leaves are winnowed by the breeze  
 Into a calmer rest :  
 The black-cap's song was very sweet,  
 That used the rose to kiss ;  
 It made the Paradisc complete :  
 My early home was this.

The red-breast from the sweetbrier bush  
 Dropt down to pick the worm ;  
 On the horse-chestnut sang the thrush,  
 O'er the house where I was born ;  
 The moonlight, like a shower of pearls,  
 Fell o'er this ' bower of bliss ',  
 And on the bench sat boys and girls :  
 My early home was this.

The old house stooped just like a cave,  
 Thatched o'er with mosses green ;  
 Winter around the walls would rave,  
 But all was calm within ;  
 The trees are here all green agen,  
 Here bees the flowers still kiss,  
 But flowers and trees seemed sweeter then :  
 My early home was this.

J. CLARE.

## 202. FROM 'THE FATE OF AMY'

THE flowers the sultry summer  
 kills,  
 Spring's milder suns restore ;  
 But innocence, that fickle charm,  
 Blooms once, and blooms no  
 more.

The swains who loved no more  
 admire,  
 Their hearts no beauty warms ;  
 And maidens triumph in her fall  
 That envied once her charms.

Lost was that sweet simplicity ;  
 Her eye's bright lustre fled ;  
 And o'er her cheeks, where roses  
 bloomed,  
 A sickly paleness spread.

So fades the flower before its  
 time,  
 Where canker-worms assail ;  
 So droops the bud upon its stem  
 Beneath the sickly gale.

J. CLARE.

## 203. EVENING PRIMROSE

WHEN once the sun sinks in the west,  
 And dew-drops pearl the Evening's breast ;  
 Almost as pale as moonbeams are,  
 Or its companionable star,  
 The Evening Primrose opes anew  
 Its delicate blossoms to the dew ;  
 And hermit-like, shunning the light,  
 Wastes its fair bloom upon the Night ;  
 Who, blindfold to its fond caresses,  
 Knows not the beauty he possesses.  
 Thus it blooms on while Night is by ;  
 When Day looks out with open eye,  
 'Bashed at the gaze it cannot shun,  
 It faints, and withers, and is gone.

J. CLARE.

## 204. 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, upsprung 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.

## 205. THE BATHING-PLACE

BUT in the interval here the boiling, pent-up water  
 Frees itself by a final descent, attaining a basin,  
 Ten feet wide and eighteen long, with whiteness and fury  
 Occupied partly, but mostly pellucid, pure, a mirror ;  
 Beautiful there for the colour derived from the green rocks under ;  
 Beautiful, most of all, where beads of foam uprising  
 Mingle their clouds of white with the delicate hue of the stillness,  
 Cliff over cliff for its sides, with rowan and pendent birch boughs,  
 Here it lies, unthought of above at the bridge and pathway,  
 Still more enclosed from below by wood and rocky projection.  
 You are shut in, left alone with yourself and perfection of water,  
 Hid on all sides, left alone with yourself and the goddess of bathing.  
 Here, the pride of the plunger, you stride the fall and clear it ;  
 Here, the delight of the bather, you roll in beaded sparklings,  
 Here into pure green depth drop down from lofty ledges.

A. H. CLOUGH (*The Bothie of Tober-na-Vuolich*).

## 206. COME BACK, COME BACK

COME back, come back, across the flying foam,  
 We hear faint far-off voices call us home.

.....  
 Come back, come back ; and whither back or why ?  
 To fan quenched hopes, forsaken schemes to try ;  
 Walk the old fields ; pace the familiar street ;  
 Dream with the idlers, with the bards compete.  
 Come back, come back.

Come back, come back ; and whither and for what ?  
 To finger idly some old Gordian knot,  
 Unskilled to sunder, and too weak to cleave,  
 And with much toil attain to half-believe.  
 Come back, come back.

.....  
 Come back, come back !  
 Back flies the foam ; the hoisted flag streams back ;  
 The long smoke wavers on the homeward track,  
 Back fly with winds things which the winds obey,  
 The strong ship follows its appointed way.

A. H. CLOUGH.

## 207. GREEN FIELDS OF ENGLAND

GREEN fields of England ! wheresoe'er  
 Across this watery waste we fare,  
 Your image at our hearts we bear,  
 Green fields of England, everywhere.



Sweet eyes in England, I must flee  
 Past where the waves' last confines be,  
 Ere your loved smile I cease to see,  
 Sweet eyes in England, dear to me.

Dear home in England, safe and fast  
 If but in thee my lot lie cast,  
 The past shall seem a nothing past  
 To thee, dear home, if won at last;  
 Dear home in England, won at last.

A. H. CLOUGH.

### 208. THE STREAM OF LIFE

O STREAM descending to the sea,  
 Thy mossy banks between,  
 The flowerets blow, the grasses  
 grow,  
 The leafy trees are green.

In garden plots the children play,  
 The fields the labourers till,  
 And houses stand on either hand,  
 And thou descendest still.

O life descending into death,  
 Our waking eyes behold,  
 Parent and friend thy lapse attend,  
 Companions young and old.

Strong purposes our mind possess,  
 Our hearts affections fill,  
 We toil and earn, we seek and  
 learn,  
 And thou descendest still.

O end to which our currents tend,  
 Inevitable sea,  
 To which we flow, what do we  
 know,  
 What shall we guess of thee ?

A roar we hear upon thy shore,  
 As we our course fulfil ;  
 Scarce we divine a sun will shine  
 And be above us still.

A. H. CLOUGH.

### 209. IN A LONDON SQUARE

PUT forth thy leaf, thou lofty plane,  
 East wind and frost are safely gone ;  
 With zephyr mild and balmy rain  
 The summer comes serenely on ;  
 Earth, air, and sun and skies combine  
 To promise all that's kind and fair ;—  
 But thou, O human heart of mine,  
 Be still, contain thyself, and bear.

December days were brief and chill,  
 The winds of March were wild and drear,  
 And, nearing and receding still,  
 Spring never would, we thought, be here.  
 The leaves that burst, the suns that shine,  
 Had, not the less, their certain date ;—  
 And thou, O human heart of mine,  
 Be still, refrain thyself, and wait.

A. H. CLOUGH.

## 210. SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE NAUGHT AVAILETH

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.

## 211. HOME, ROSE, AND HOME, PROVENCE AND LA PALIE

ITE DOMUM SATURAE, VENIT HESPERUS

THE skies have sunk, and hid the upper snow  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie),  
 The rainy clouds are filing fast below,  
 And wet will be the path, and wet shall we.  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

Ah dear, and where is he, a year ago  
 Who stepped beside and cheered us on and on ?  
 My sweetheart wanders far away from me,  
 In foreign land or on a foreign sea.  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

The lightning zigzags shoot across the sky  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie),  
 And through the vale the rains go sweeping by ;  
 Ah me, and when in shelter shall we be ?  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

Cold, dreary cold, the stormy winds feel they  
 O'er foreign lands and foreign seas that stray  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie).  
 And doth he e'er, I wonder, bring to mind  
 The pleasant huts and herds he left behind ?  
 And doth he sometimes in his slumbering see  
 The feeding kine and doth he think of me,  
 My sweetheart wandering wheresoe'er it be ?  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

The thunder bellows far from snow to snow  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie),  
 And loud and louder roars the flood below.  
 Heigh-ho ! but soon in shelter shall we be :  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

Or shall he find before his term be sped,  
 Some comelier maid that he shall wish to wed ?  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.)  
 For weary is work, and weary day by day  
 To have your comfort miles on miles away.  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

Or may it be that I shall find my mate,  
 And he returning see himself too late ?  
 For work we must, and what we see, we see,  
 And God he knows, and what must be, must be,  
 When sweethearts wander far away from me.  
 Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie.

The sky behind is brightening up anew  
 (Home, Rose, and home, Provence and La Palie),  
 The rain is ending, and our journey too :  
 Heigh-ho ! aha ! for here at home are we :—  
 In, Rose, and in, Provence and La Palie.

A. H. CLOUGH.

## 212. WHERE LIES THE LAND TO WHICH THE SHIP WOULD GO ?

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.

## 213. WHERE UPON APENNINE SLOPE

WHERE, upon Apennine slope, with the chestnut the oak-trees im-  
mingle,

Where amid odorous copse bridle-paths wander and wind,  
Where under mulberry-branches the diligent rivulet sparkles,  
Or amid cotton and maize peasants their water-works ply,  
Where, over fig-tree and orange in tier upon tier still repeated,  
Garden on garden upreared, balconies step to the sky,—  
Ah, that I were far away from the crowd and the streets of the city,  
Under the vine-trellis laid, O my beloved, with thee!

A. H. CLOUGH (*Amours de Voyage*).

## 214. SHE IS NOT FAIR TO OUTWARD VIEW

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.

HARTLEY COLERIDGE.

## 215. WHITHER IS GONE THE WISDOM AND THE POWER

WHITHER is gone the wisdom and the power  
That ancient sages scattered with the notes  
Of thought-suggesting lyres? The music floats  
In the void air; e'en at this breathing hour,  
In every cell and every blooming bower  
The sweetness of old lays is hovering still:  
But the strong soul, the self-constraining will,  
The rugged root which bare the winsome flower  
Is weak and withered. Were we like the fays  
That sweetly nestle in the fox-glove bells,  
Or lurk and murmur in the rose-lipped shells  
Which Neptune to the earth for quit-rent pays,  
Then might our pretty modern Philomels  
Sustain our spirits with their roundelays.

HARTLEY COLERIDGE.

## 216. A LITTLE CHILD

A LITTLE child, a limber elf,  
Singing, dancing to itself,  
A fairy thing with red round  
cheeks  
That always finds, and never seeks,  
Makes such a vision to the sight  
As fills a father's eyes with light;

And pleasures flow in so thick and  
fast  
Upon his heart, that he at last  
Must needs express his love's  
excess  
With words of unmeant bitterness.

S. T. COLERIDGE (*Christabel*).

## 217. THEY HAD BEEN FRIENDS IN YOUTH

ALAS! they had been friends in youth;  
 But whispering tongues can poison truth;  
 And constancy lives in realms above;  
 And life is thorny; and youth is vain:  
 And to be wroth with one we love,  
 Doth work like madness in the brain.  
 And thus it chanced, as I divine,  
 With Roland and Sir Leoline.  
 Each spake words of high disdain  
 And insult to his heart's best brother:  
 They parted—ne'er to meet again!  
 But never either found another  
 To free the hollow heart from paining—  
 They stood aloof, the scars remaining,  
 Like cliffs which had been rent asunder;  
 A dreary sea now flows between.  
 But neither heat, nor frost, nor thunder,  
 Shall wholly do away, I ween,  
 The marks of that which once hath been.

S. T. COLERIDGE (*Christabel*).

## 218. LOVE

ALL thoughts, all passions, all delights,  
 Whatever stirs this mortal frame,  
 All are but ministers of Love,  
 And feed his sacred flame.

. . . . .

She wept with pity and delight,  
 She blushed with love and virgin-shame;  
 And like the murmur of a dream,  
 I heard her breathe my name.

Her bosom heaved—she stepped aside,  
 As conscious of my look she stepped—  
 Then suddenly, with timorous eye,  
 She fled to me and wept.

She half enclosed me with her arms,  
 She pressed me with a meek embrace;  
 And bending back her head, looked 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.

S. T. COLERIDGE.

## 219. NAMES

<p>I ASKED my fair one happy day,          What I should call her in my lay;          By what sweet name from            Rome or Greece ;          Lalage, Neaera, Chloris,          Sappho, Lesbia, or Doris,            Arethusa or Lucrece.</p>	<p>' Ah ! ' replied my gentle fair,          ' Belovèd, what are names but air ?          Choose thou whatever suits the            line ;          Call me Sappho, call me Chloris,          Call me Lalage or Doris,          Only, only call me Thine.'                    S. T. COLERIDGE.</p>
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## 220. KUBLA KHAN

IN Xanadu did Kubla Khan  
 A stately pleasure-dome decree :  
 Where Alph, the sacred river, ran  
 Through caverns measureless to man  
   Down to a sunless sea.  
 So twice five miles of fertile ground  
 With walls and towers were girdled round :  
 And here were gardens bright with sinuous rills,  
 Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree ;  
 And here were forests ancient as the hills,  
 Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.  
 But oh ! that deep romantic chasm which slanted  
 Down the green hill athwart a cedarn cover !  
 A savage place ! as holy and enchanted  
 As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted  
 By woman wailing for her demon-lover !  
 And from this chasm with ceaseless turmoil seething,  
 As if this earth in fast thick pants were breathing,  
 A mighty fountain momently was forced :  
 Amid whose swift half-intermitted burst  
 Huge fragments vaulted like rebounding hail,  
 Or chaffy grain beneath the thresher's flail :  
 And 'mid these dancing rocks at once and ever  
 It flung up momently the sacred river.  
 Five miles meandering with a mazy motion  
 Through wood and dale the sacred river ran,  
 Then reached the caverns measureless to man  
 And sank in tumult to a lifeless ocean :  
 And 'mid this tumult Kubla heard from far  
 Ancestral voices prophesying war !

  The shadow of the dome of pleasure  
   Floated midway on the waves ;  
   Where was heard the mingled measure  
   From the fountain and the caves.  
 It was a miracle of rare device,  
 A sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice !

A damsel with a dulcimer  
 In a vision once I saw :  
 It was an Abyssinian maid,  
 And on her dulcimer she played,  
 Singing of Mount Abora.  
 Could I revive within me  
 Her symphony and song,  
 To such a deep delight 'twould win me,  
 That with music loud and long,  
 I would build that dome in air,  
 That sunny dome ! those caves of ice !  
 And all who heard should see them there,  
 And all should cry, Beware ! Beware !  
 His flashing eyes, his floating hair !  
 Weave a circle round him thrice,  
 And close your eyes with holy dread,  
 For he on honey-dew hath fed,  
 And drank the milk of Paradise. S. T. COLERIDGE.

## 221. THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER

It is an ancient mariner,  
 And he stoppeth one of three.  
 'By thy long grey beard and  
 glittering eye,  
 Now wherefore stopp'st thou me ?  
 'The Bridegroom's doors are  
 opened wide  
 And I am next of kin ;  
 The guests are met, the feast is  
 set :  
 May'st hear the merry din.'  
 He holds him with his skinny hand,  
 'There was a ship,' quoth he.  
 'Hold off ! unhand me, grey-  
 beard loon !'  
 Eftsoons his hand dropt he.  
 He holds him with his glittering  
 eye—  
 The Wedding-Guest stood still,  
 And listens like a three years'  
 child :  
 The Mariner hath his will.  
 The Wedding-Guests sat on a stone:  
 He cannot choose but hear ;  
 And thus spake on that ancient  
 man,  
 The bright-eyed Mariner.

The ship was cheered, the harbour  
 cleared,  
 Merrily did we drop  
 Below the kirk, below the hill,  
 Below the lighthouse top.  
 The sun came up upon the left,  
 Out of the sea came he !  
 And he shone bright, and on the  
 right  
 Went down into the sea.  
 Higher and higher every day,  
 Till over the mast at noon—  
 The Wedding-Guest here beat his  
 breast,  
 For he heard the loud bassoon.  
 The bride hath paced into the hall,  
 Red as a rose is she ;  
 Nodding their heads before her  
 goes  
 The merry minstrelsy.  
 The Wedding-Guest he beat his  
 breast,  
 Yet he cannot choose but hear ;  
 And thus spake on that ancient  
 man,  
 The bright-eyed Mariner.

And now the Storm-blast came,  
 and he  
 Was tyrannous and strong :  
 He struck with his o'ertaking  
 wings,  
 And chased us south along.  
 With sloping masts and dipping  
 prow,  
 As who pursued with yell and  
 blow  
 Still treads the shadow of his foe  
 And forward bends his head,  
 The ship drove fast, loud roared  
 the blast,  
 And southward ay we fled.  
 And now there came both mist  
 and snow  
 And it grew wondrous cold :  
 And ice, mast-high, came floating  
 by,  
 As green as emerald.  
 And through the drifts the snowy  
 clifts  
 Did send a dismal sheen :  
 Nor shapes of men nor beasts we  
 ken—  
 The ice was all between.  
 The ice was here, the ice was  
 there,  
 The ice was all around :  
 It cracked and growled, and  
 roared and howled,  
 Like noises in a swound !  
 At length did cross an Albatross :  
 Thorough the fog it came ;  
 As if it had been a Christian soul,  
 We hailed it in God's name.  
 It ate the food it ne'er had eat,  
 And round and round it flew.  
 The ice did split with a thunder-  
 fit ;  
 The helmsman steered us through !  
 And a good south wind sprung  
 up behind ;  
 The Albatross did follow,  
 And every day, for food or play,  
 Came to the mariner's hollo !

In mist or cloud, on mast or  
 shroud,  
 It perched for vespers nine ;  
 Whiles all the night, through fog-  
 smoke white,  
 Glimmered the white moonshine.

' God save thee, ancient Mariner !  
 From the fiends, that plague thee  
 thus !—  
 Why look'st thou so ? '—With my  
 cross-bow  
 I shot the Albatross.

The Sun now rose upon the  
 right :  
 Out of the sea came he,  
 Still hid in mist, and on the left  
 Went down into the sea.

And the good south wind still  
 blew behind,  
 But no sweet bird did follow,  
 Nor any day for food or play  
 Come to the mariner's hollo !

And I had done a hellish thing,  
 And it would work 'em woe :  
 For all averred, I had killed the  
 bird  
 That made the breeze to blow.  
 Ah wretch ! said they, the bird  
 to slay,  
 That made the breeze to blow !

Nor dim nor red, like God's own  
 head,  
 The glorious Sun uprist :  
 Then all averred, I had killed the  
 bird  
 That brought the fog and mist.  
 'Twas right, said they, such birds  
 to slay,  
 That bring the fog and mist.

The fair breeze blew, the white  
 foam flew,  
 The furrow followed free :  
 We were the first that ever burst  
 Into that silent sea.



Down dropt the breeze, the sails  
dropt down,

'Twas sad as sad could be ;  
And we did speak only to break  
The silence of the sea !

All in a hot and copper sky,  
The bloody Sun, at noon,  
Right up above the mast did  
stand,

No bigger than the Moon.

Day after day, day after day,  
We stuck, nor breath nor motion ;  
As idle as a painted ship  
Upon a painted ocean.

Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink ;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink.

The very deep did rot : O Christ !  
That ever this should be !  
Yea, slimy things did crawl with  
legs

Upon the slimy sea.

About, about, in reel and rout  
The death-fires danced at night ;  
The water, like a witch's oils,  
Burnt green and blue and white.

And some in dreams assured were  
Of the spirit that plagued us so ;  
Nine fathom deep he had followed  
us

From the land of mist and snow.  
And every tongue, through utter  
drought,

Was withered at the root ;  
We could not speak, no more  
than if

We had been choked with soot.  
Ah ! well-a-day ! what evil looks  
Had I from old and young !  
Instead of the cross, the Albatross  
About my neck was hung.

Alone, alone, all, all alone,  
Alone on a wide wide sea !  
And never a saint took pity on  
My soul in agony.

The many men, so beautiful !  
And they all dead did lie :  
And a thousand thousand slimy  
things  
Lived on ; and so did I.

I looked upon the rotting sea,  
And drew my eyes away ;  
I looked upon the rotting deck  
And there the dead men lay.

Oh sleep ! it is a gentle thing,  
Beloved from pole to pole !  
To Mary Queen the praise be  
given !  
She sent the gentle sleep from  
Heaven,  
That slid into my soul.

The silly buckets on the deck,  
That had so long remained,  
I dreamt that they were filled  
with dew ;  
And when I awoke, it rained.

My lips were wet, my throat was  
cold,  
My garments were all dank ;  
Sure I had drunken in my dreams,  
And still my body drank.

I moved, and could not feel my  
limbs :  
I was so light—almost  
I thought that I had died in sleep,  
And was a blessed ghost.

The Sun, right up above the mast,  
Had fixed her to the ocean :  
But in a minute she 'gan stir,  
With a short uneasy motion—  
Backwards and forwards half her  
length  
With a short uneasy motion.

Then, like a pawing horse let go,  
She made a sudden bound :  
It flung the blood into my head,  
And I fell down in a swoond.

How long in that same fit I lay,  
I have not to declare ;  
But ere my living life returned,  
I heard and in my soul discerned  
Two voices in the air.

'Is it he?' quoth one, 'Is this  
the man?  
By Him who died on cross,  
With his cruel bow he laid full  
low  
The harmless Albatross.

'The spirit who bideth by himself  
In the land of mist and snow,  
He loved the bird that loved the  
man  
Who shot him with his bow.'

The other was a softer voice,  
As soft as honeydew :  
Quoth he, 'The man hath pen-  
ance done,  
And penance more will do.'

O Wedding-Guest! this soul hath  
been  
Alone on a wide wide sea :  
So lonely 'twas, that God Him-  
self  
Scarce seemèd there to be.

O sweeter than the marriage-feast,  
'Tis sweeter far to me,  
To walk together to the kirk  
With a goodly company !—

To walk together to the kirk,  
And all together pray,  
While each to his great Father  
bends,  
Old men, and babes, and loving  
friends,  
And youths and maidens gay !

Farewell, farewell ! but this I tell  
To thee, thou Wedding-Guest !  
He prayeth well, who loveth well  
Both man and bird and beast.

He prayeth best, who loveth best  
All things both great and small ;  
For the dear God who loveth us,  
He made and loveth all.

The Mariner, whose eye is bright,  
Whose beard with age is hoar,  
Is gone: and now the Wedding-  
Guest  
Turned from the bridegroom's  
door.

He went like one that hath been  
stunned,  
And is of sense forlorn :  
A sadder and a wiser man,  
He rose the morrow morn.

S. T. COLERIDGE.

## 222. AN EPITAPH FOR HIMSELF

STOP, Christian passer-by!—Stop, child of God,  
And read with gentle breast. Beneath this sod  
A poet lies, or that which once seemed he.—  
Oh, lift one thought in prayer for S. T. C. !  
That he who many a year with toil of breath  
Found death in life, may here find life in death !  
Mercy for praise—to be forgiven for fame  
He asked, and hoped, through Christ. Do thou the same !  
S. T. COLERIDGE.

## 223. THE KNIGHT'S TOMB

WHERE is the grave of Sir Arthur O'Kellyn ?  
 Where may the grave of that good man be ?—  
 By the side of a spring, on the breast of Helvellyn,  
 Under the twigs of a young birch tree !  
 The oak that in summer was sweet to hear,  
 And rustled its leaves in the fall of the year,  
 And whistled and roared in the winter alone,  
 Is gone,—and the birch in its stead is grown.—  
 The Knight's bones are dust,  
 And his good sword rust ;—  
 His soul is with the saints, I trust.     S. T. COLERIDGE.

## 224. CURST BE THE GOLD AND SILVER

CURST be the gold and silver which persuade  
 Weak men to follow far-fatiguing trade.  
 The lily-peace outshines the silver store,  
 And life is dearer than the golden ore.  
 Yet money tempts us o'er the desert brown,  
 To every distant mart, and wealthy town :  
 Full oft we tempt the land, and oft the sea,  
 And are we only yet repaid by thee ?  
 Ah ! why was ruin so attractive made,  
 Or why fond man so easily betrayed ?  
 Why heed we not, whilst mad we haste along,  
 The gentle voice of peace, or pleasure's song ?  
 Or wherefore think the flowery mountain's side,  
 The fountain's murmurs, and the valley's pride,  
 Why think we these less pleasing to behold,  
 Than dreary deserts, if they lead to gold ?  
     *Sad was the hour, and luckless was the day,  
     When first from Schiraz' walls I bent my way.*  
                                   W. COLLINS (*Persian Eclogues*).

## 225. ODE WRITTEN IN 1746

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 hallowed 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.

## 226. TO EVENING

If aught of oaten stop or pastoral song  
 May hope, O pensive Eve, to soothe thine ear,  
     Like thy own brawling springs,  
     Thy springs, and dying gales,  
 O Nymph reserved, while now the bright-haired sun  
 Sits in yon western tent, whose cloudy skirts,  
     With brede ethereal wove,  
     O'erhang his wavy bed :  
 Now air is hushed, save where the weak-eyed bat,  
 With short shrill shriek flits by on leathern wing,  
     Or when 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 softened strain,  
 Whose numbers stealing through thy darkening 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-discovered 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 fallow 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.

### 227. DIRGE FOR FIDELE

To fair Fidele's grassy tomb  
 Soft maids and village hinds shall bring  
 Each opening sweet of earliest bloom,  
 And rifle all the breathing Spring.

No wailing ghost shall dare appear  
 To vex with shrieks this quiet grove :  
 But shepherd lads assemble here,  
 And melting virgins own their love.

No withered witch shall here be seen ;  
 No goblins lead their nightly crew :  
 The female fays shall haunt the green,  
 And dress thy grave with pearly dew !

The redbreast oft at evening hours  
 Shall kindly lend his little aid ;  
 With hoary moss, and gathered flowers,  
 To deck the ground where thou art laid.

When howling winds, and beating rain,  
 In tempests shake the sylvan cell ;  
 Or 'midst the chase on every plain,  
 The tender thought on thee shall dwell.

Each lonely scene shall thee restore,  
 For thee the tear be duly shed ;  
 Beloved till life can charm no more,  
 And mourned till Pity's self be dead.

W. COLLINS.

### 228. TO MUSIC

WHEN Music, heavenly maid, was young,  
 While yet in early Greece she sung,  
 The Passions oft to hear her shell,  
 Thronged around her magic cell,  
 Exulting, trembling, raging, fainting,  
 Possessed beyond the Muse's painting ;  
 By turns they felt the glowing mind,  
 Disturbed, delighted, raised, refined,

Till once, 'tis said, when all were fired,  
 Filled with fury, rapt, inspired,  
 From the supporting myrtles round,  
 They snatched 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.

W. COLLINS (*The Passions*).

229. A HUE AND CRY AFTER FAIR AMORET

FAIR Amoret is gone astray !  
 Pursue and seek her, every lover !  
 I'll tell the signs by which you may  
 The wandering shepherdess discover.

Coquet and coy at once her air,  
 Both studied, though both seem neglected:  
 Careless she is, with artful care ;  
 Affecting to seem unaffected.

With skill, her eyes dart every glance ;  
 Yet change so soon, you'd ne'er suspect them:  
 For she'd persuade, they wound by chance ;  
 Though certain aim and art direct them.

She likes herself, yet others hates  
 For that which in herself she prizes,  
 And, while she laughs at them, forgets  
 She is the thing that she despises. W. CONGREVE.

230. FALSE THOUGH SHE BE TO ME

<p>FALSE though she be to me and          love,          I'll ne'er pursue revenge ;          For still the charmer I approve,          Though I deplore her change.</p>	<p>In hours of bliss we oft have met :          They could not always last,          And though the present I regret,          I'm grateful for the past.          W. CONGREVE.</p>
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231. MUSIC HAS CHARMS

MUSIC has charms to soothe a savage breast,  
 To soften rocks, or bend a knotted oak.  
 I've read that things inanimate have moved,  
 And, as with living souls, have been informed  
 By magic numbers and persuasive sound.  
 What then am I ? Am I more senseless grown  
 Than trees or flint ? O force of constant woe !  
 'Tis not in harmony to calm my griefs.

W. CONGREVE (*The Mourning Bride*).

232. SABINA WAKES

SEE! see, she wakes! Sabina wakes!  
 And now the sun begins to rise!  
 Less glorious is the morn that breaks  
 From his bright beams than her fair eyes.

With light united, day they give;  
 But different fates ere night fulfil;  
 How many by his warmth will live!  
 How many will her coldness kill!

W. CONGREVE.

233. 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 belovèd of their dams;  
 How blest were I if thou wouldst 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 blessèd  
 When all thy praises are expressèd,  
 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.

234. FAREWELL, REWARDS AND FAIRIES

FAREWELL, rewards and fairies,  
 Good housewives now may  
 say,  
 For now foul sluts in dairies  
 Do fare as well as they.  
 And though they sweep their  
 hearths no less  
 Than maids were wont to  
 do,  
 Yet who of late for cleanliness  
 Finds sixpence in her shoe?

Lament, lament, old Abbeys,  
 The Fairies' lost command!  
 They did but change Priests'  
 babies,  
 But some have changed your  
 land.  
 And all your children, sprung from  
 thence,  
 Are now grown Puritans,  
 Who live as Changelings ever since  
 For love of your demains.

At morning and at evening both  
 You merry were and glad,  
 So little care of sleep or sloth  
 These pretty ladies had ;  
 When Tom came home from  
 labour,  
 Or Cis to milking rose,  
 Then merrily went their tabor,  
 And nimbly went their toes.

Witness those rings and rounde-  
 lays  
 Of theirs, which yet remain,  
 Were footed in Queen Mary's days  
 On many a grassy plain ;  
 But since of late, Elizabeth,  
 And later, James came in,  
 They never danced on any heath  
 As when the time hath been.

By which we note the Fairies  
 Were of the old Profession.  
 Their songs were 'Ave Mary's',  
 Their dances were Procession.  
 But now, alas, they all are dead ;  
 Or gone beyond the seas ;  
 Or farther for Religion fled ;  
 Or else they take their ease.

A tell-tale in their company  
 They never could endure !  
 And whoso kept not secretly  
 Their mirth, was punished, sure ;  
 It was a just and Christian  
 deed  
 To pinch such black and blue.  
 Oh how the commonwealth doth  
 want  
 Such Justices as you !  
 R. CORBET.

## 235. TO VINCENT CORBET, HIS SON

WHAT I shall leave thee, none can  
 tell,  
 But all shall say I wish thee  
 well :  
 I wish thee, Vin, before all wealth,  
 Both bodily and ghostly health ;  
 Nor too much wealth nor wit  
 come to thee,  
 So much of either may undo thee.  
 I wish thee learning not for show,  
 Enough for to instruct and know ;  
 Not such as gentlemen require  
 To prate at table or at fire.

I wish thee all thy mother's graces,  
 Thy father's fortunes and his  
 places.  
 I wish thee friends, and one at  
 court,  
 Not to build on, but support ;  
 To keep thee not in doing many  
 Oppressions, but from suffering  
 any.  
 I wish thee peace in all thy ways,  
 Nor lazy nor contentious days ;  
 And, when thy soul and body part,  
 As innocent as now thou art.  
 R. CORBET.

## 236. OH, EARLIER SHALL THE ROSEBUDS BLOW

Oh, earlier shall the rosebuds blow,  
 In after years, those happier years,  
 And children weep, when we lie low,  
 Far fewer tears, far softer tears.

Oh, true shall boyish laughter ring,  
 Like tinkling chimes, in kinder times !  
 And merrier shall the maiden sing :  
 And I not there, and I not there.



Like lightning in the summer night  
 Their mirth shall be, so quick and free;  
 And oh! the flash of their delight  
 I shall not see, I may not see.

In deeper dream, with wider range,  
 Those eyes shall shine, but not on mine:  
 Unmoved, unblest, by worldly change,  
 The dead must rest, the dead shall rest.

W. J. CORY.

### 237. 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.

### 238. 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 child-like 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.

## 239. TO CHLORIS

FAREWELL, my sweet, until I come,  
 Improved in merit, for thy sake,  
 With characters of honour, home,  
 Such as thou canst not then but take.

To loyalty my love must bow,  
 My honour, too, calls to the field,  
 Where for a lady's busk I now  
 Must keen and sturdy iron wield.

Yet, when I rush into those arms,  
 Where death and danger do combine,  
 I shall less subject be to harms  
 Than to those killing eyes of thine.

C. COTTON.

## 240. FROM 'THE RETIREMENT'

GOOD God, how sweet are all things here,  
 How beautiful the fields appear,  
 How cleanly do we feed and lie,  
 Lord! what good hours do we keep.

How quietly we sleep.

What peace, what unanimity!  
 How innocent from the lewd fashion  
 Is all our business, all our recreation!

How calm and quiet a delight

Is it, alone,

To read, and meditate, and write;

By none offended, and offending none.

To walk, ride, sit, or sleep, at one's own ease,

And, pleasing a man's self, none other to displease!

C. COTTON.

## 241. CONTENTATION

WHO from the busy world retires,

To be more useful to it still,

And to no greater good aspires

But only the eschewing ill.

Who with his angle and his books,

Can think the longest day well spent,

And praises God when back he looks,

And finds that all was innocent.

This man is happier far than he

Whom public business oft betrays

Through labyrinths of policy

To crooked and forbidden ways.

C. COTTON.

## 242. A PARADISE BELOW

DEAR Chloe, while the busy crowd,  
The vain, the wealthy and the  
proud,

In folly's maze advance ;  
Though singularity and pride  
Be called our choice, we'll step  
aside,  
Nor join the giddy dance.

Though fools spurn Hymen's  
gentle powers,

We, who improve his golden hours,  
By sweet experience know,  
That marriage, rightly understood,  
Gives to the tender and the  
good

A paradise below !

N. COTTON (*The Fireside*).

## 243. CHEER UP, MY MATES

CHEER up, my mates, the wind does fairly blow ;

Clap on more sail, and never spare ;

Farewell, all lands, for now we are

In the wide sea of drink, and merrily we go.

Bless me, 'tis hot ! another bowl of wine,

And we shall cut the burning Line :

Hey, boys ! she scuds away, and by my head I know

We round the world are sailing now.

What dull men are those who tarry at home,

When abroad they might wantonly roam,

And gain such experience, and spy, too,

Such countries and wonders, as I do !

But pr'ythee, good pilot, take heed what you do,

And fail not to touch at Peru !

With gold there the vessel we'll store,

And never, and never be poor,

No, never be poor any more.

A. COWLEY

(*Sitting and drinking in the chair made out of the  
relics of Sir Francis Drake's ship*).

## 244. FILL THE BOWL WITH ROSY WINE

FILL the bowl with rosy wine,

Around our temples roses twine,

And let us cheerfully awhile,

Like the wine and roses, smile.

Crowned with roses, we contemn

Gyges' wealthy diadem.

To-day is ours ; what do we fear ?

To-day is ours ; we have it here !

Let 's treat it kindly, that it may

Wish, at least, with us to stay.

Let 's banish business, banish sorrow,

To the gods belongs to-morrow.

A. COWLEY.

## 245. THE SWALLOW

FOOLISH prater, what dost thou  
So early at my window do ?

Cruel bird, thou'st ta'en away  
A dream out of my arms to-day ;  
A dream that ne'er must equalled be

By all that waking eyes may see.  
Thou this damage to repair  
Nothing half so sweet or fair,  
Nothing half so good, canst bring,  
Though men say thou bring'st the  
Spring. A. COWLEY.

## 246. LARGE WAS HIS SOUL

LARGE was his soul ; as large a soul as e'er  
Submitted to inform a body here ;  
High as the place 'twas shortly in Heaven to have,  
But low and humble as his grave.  
So high that all the virtues there did come,  
As to their chiefest seat  
Conspicuous and great ;  
So low, that for me too it made a room.

Knowledge he only sought, and so soon caught  
As if for him Knowledge had rather sought ;  
Nor did more learning ever crowded lie  
In such a short mortality.

Whene'er the skilful youth discoursed or writ,  
Still did the notions throng  
About his eloquent tongue ;  
Nor could his ink flow faster than his wit.

His mirth was the pure spirits of various wit,  
Yet never did his God or friends forget ;  
And when deep talk and wisdom came in view,  
Retired, and gave to them their due.  
For the rich help of books he always took,  
Though his own searching mind before  
Was so with notions written o'er,  
As if wise Nature had made that her book.

A. COWLEY (*On the death of Mr. William Harvey*).

## 247. LIFE

LIFE'S a name  
That nothing here can truly claim ;  
This wretched inn, where we scarce stay to bait,  
We call our dwelling-place !  
And mighty voyages we take,  
And mighty journeys seem to make,  
O'er sea and land, the little point that has no space.  
Because we fight and battles gain,  
Some captives call, and say, ' The rest are slain ;'  
Because we heap up yellow earth, and so  
Rich, valiant, wise, and virtuous seem to grow ;

Because we draw a long nobility  
 From hieroglyphic proofs of heraldry,  
 And impudently talk of a posterity—

We grow at last by custom to believe,  
 That really we live ;

Whilst all these shadows, that for things we take,  
 Are but the empty dreams which in Death's sleep we make.

A. COWLEY.

#### 248. WITHOUT AND WITHIN

Love in her sunny eyes doth basking play ;  
 Love walks the pleasant mazes of her hair ;  
 Love does on both her lips for ever stray,  
 And sows and reaps a thousand kisses there :  
 In all her outward parts Love's always seen ;  
 But oh ! he never went within.

A. COWLEY.

#### 249. THE CHRONICLE

MARGARITA first possessed,  
 If I remember well, my breast ;  
 Margarita, first of all !

But when a while the wanton maid  
 With my restless heart had played,  
 Martha took the flying ball.

Martha soon did it resign  
 To the beauteous Catharine.  
 Beauteous Catharine gave place  
 (Though loath and angry she to part  
 With the possession of my heart)  
 To Eliza's conquering face.

Eliza till this hour might reign,  
 Had not she ill counsels ta'en.  
 Fundamental laws she broke ;  
 And still new favourites she chose,  
 Till up in arms my passions rose,  
 And cast away her yoke.

Mary then and gentle Anne  
 Both to reign at once began.  
 Alternately they swayed ;  
 And sometimes Mary was the fair,  
 And sometimes Anne the crown did wear ;  
 And sometimes both I obeyed.

Another Mary then arose  
 And did rigorous laws impose ;  
 A mighty tyrant she !  
 Long, alas, should I have been  
 Under that iron-sceptred Queen,  
 Had not Rebecca set me free.

When fair Rebecca set me free,  
 Twas then a golden time with me.  
 But soon those pleasures fled,  
 For the gracious Princess died  
 In her youth and beauty's pride,  
 And Judith reigned in her stead.

One month, three days, and half an hour,  
 Judith held the sovereign power.  
 Wondrous beautiful her face ;  
 But so weak and small her wit  
 That she to govern was unfit,  
 And so Susanna took her place.

But when Isabella came,  
 Armed with a resistless flame  
 And th' artillery of her eye,  
 Whilst she proudly marched about  
 Greater conquests to find out,  
 She beat out Susan by the by.

But I will briefer with them be,  
 Since few of them were long with me.  
 A higher and a nobler strain  
 My present Empress does claim:  
 Heleonora, first o' th' name,  
 Whom God grant long to reign !

A. COWLEY.

## 250. POET AND SAINT

POET and Saint ! to thee alone are given  
 The two most sacred names of earth and heaven,  
 The hard and rarest union which can be,  
 Next that of Godhead with humanity.  
 Long did the Muses banished slaves abide,  
 And built vain pyramids to mortal pride :  
 Like Moses, thou (though spells and charms withstand)  
 Hast brought them nobly home back to their Holy Land.  
 Ah, wretched we, poets of earth ! but thou  
 Wert living the same poet which thou'rt now.  
 Whilst angels sing to thee their airs divine,  
 And joy in an applause so great as thine.  
 Equal society with them to hold,  
 Thou need'st not make new songs, but say the old.  
 And they (kind spirits !) shall all rejoice to see  
 How little less than they exalted man may be.

A. COWLEY (*On the death of Mr. Crashaw*).

## 251. SPORT

THE merry waves dance up and down and play,  
 Sport is granted to the sea ;  
 Birds are the quiristers of the empty air,  
 Sport is never wanting there ;  
 The ground doth smile at the spring's flowery birth,  
 Sport is granted to the earth ;  
 The fire its cheering flame on high doth rear,  
 Sport is never wanting there.  
 If all the elements, the earth, the sea,  
 Air, and fire, so merry be,  
 Why is man's mirth so seldom and so small,  
 Who is compounded of them all ?

A. COWLEY.

## 252. DRINKING

THE thirsty earth soaks up the rain,  
 And drinks, and gapes for drink again.  
 The plants suck in the earth, and are  
 With constant drinking fresh and fair ;  
 The sea itself—which one would think  
 Should have but little need of drink—  
 Drinks ten thousand rivers up,  
 So filled that they o'erflow the cup.  
 The busy sun—and one would guess  
 By's drunken fiery face no less—  
 Drinks up the sea, and when he's done,  
 The moon and stars drink up the sun :  
 They drink and dance by their own light ;  
 They drink and revel all the night.  
 Nothing in nature's sober found,  
 But an eternal health goes round.  
 Fill up the bowl then, fill it high,  
 Fill up the glasses there ; for why  
 Should every creature drink but I ;  
 Why, man of morals, tell me why ?

A. COWLEY.

## 253. TO HIS MISTRESS

TYRIAN dye why do you wear,  
 You whose cheeks' best scarlet are ?  
 Why do you fondly pin  
 Pure' linens o'er your skin,  
 Your skin that's whiter far ?—  
 Casting a dusky cloud before a star

Why bears your neck a golden chain ?  
 Did Nature make your hair in vain,  
 Of gold most pure and fine ?  
 With gems why do you shine ?  
 They, neighbours to your eyes,  
 Show but like Phosphor when the Sun doth rise.

I would have all my mistress' parts  
 Owe more to Nature than the arts ;  
 I would not woo the dress,  
 Or one whose nights give less  
 Contentment than the day ;  
 She's fair whose beauty only makes her gay.

A. COWLEY.

#### 254. WELCOME, GREAT STAGIRITE

WELCOME, great Stagirite ! and teach me now  
 All I was born to know.  
 Thy scholar's victories thou dost far outdo ;  
 He conquered th' earth ; the whole world you !  
 Welcome, learned Cicero ! whose blessed tongue and wit  
 Preserves Rome's greatness yet.  
 Thou art the first of orators ; only he  
 Who best can praise thee, next must be.  
 Welcome, the Mantuan swan, Virgil the wise ;  
 Whose verse walks highest, but not flies ;  
 Who brought green Poesy to her perfect age,  
 And mad'st that art which was a rage.  
 Tell me, ye mighty Three, what shall I do  
 To be like one of you ?  
 But you have climbed the mountain's top ! there sit  
 On the calm flourishing head of it ;  
 And whilst, with wearied steps, we upward go,  
 See us, and clouds, below.

A. COWLEY.

#### 255. THE WISH

WELL then, I now do plainly see  
 This busy world and I shall ne'er agree.  
 The very honey of all earthly joy  
 Does, of all meats, the soonest cloy ;  
 And they, methinks, deserve my pity  
 Who for it can endure the stings,  
 The crowd and buzz and murmurings  
 Of this great hive, the city !



Ah yet, ere I descend to the grave,  
 May I a small house and large garden have ;  
 And a few friends, and many books, both true,  
 Both wise, and both delightful too !

And since Love ne'er will from me flee,—  
 A Mistress moderately fair,  
 And good as guardian angels are,  
 Only beloved, and loving me !

O founts ! Oh, when in you shall I  
 Myself eased of unpeaceful thoughts espy ?  
 O fields ! O woods ! when, when shall I be made  
 The happy tenant of your shade ?

Here 's the spring-head of Pleasure's flood !  
 Here 's wealthy Nature's treasury,  
 Where all the riches lie that she  
 Has coined and stamped for good.

Pride and ambition here  
 Only in far-fetched metaphors appear ;  
 Here naught but winds can hurtful murmurs scatter,  
 And naught but echo flatter.

The gods, when they descended, hither  
 From heaven did always choose their way ;  
 And therefore we may boldly say  
 That 'tis the way too thither.

How happy here should I  
 And one dear She live, and embracing die !  
 She who is all the world, and can exclude  
 In deserts solitude.

I should have then this only fear :  
 Lest men, when they my pleasures see,  
 Should all come imitate me,  
 And so make a city here.

A. COWLEY.

## 256. MILTON

AGES elapsed ere Homer's lamp appeared,  
 And ages ere the Mantuan swan was heard :  
 To carry nature lengths unknown before,  
 To give a Milton birth, asked ages more.  
 Thus genius rose and set at ordered times,  
 And shot a dayspring into distant climes,  
 Ennobling every region that he chose ;  
 He sunk in Greece, in Italy he rose ;  
 And, tedious years of Gothic darkness passed,  
 Emerged all splendour in our isle at last.  
 Thus lovely halcyons dive into the main,  
 Then show far off their shining plumes again.

W. COWPER (*Table Talk*).

## 257. BOOKS

BOOKS are not seldom talismans and spells,  
 By which the magic art of shrewder wits  
 Holds an unthinking multitude enthralled.  
 Some to the fascination of a name  
 Surrender judgement, hoodwinked. Some the style  
 Infatuates, and through labyrinths and wilds  
 Of error leads them by a tune entranced.  
 While sloth seduces more, too weak to bear  
 The insupportable fatigue of thought,  
 And swallowing, therefore, without pause or choice,  
 The total grist unsifted, husks and all.

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. vi).

## 258. EVENING

COME, Evening, once again, season of peace ;  
 Return, sweet Evening, and continue long !  
 Methinks I see thee in the streaky west,  
 With matron-step slow-moving, while the night  
 Treads on thy sweeping train ; one hand employed  
 In letting fall the curtain of repose  
 On bird and beast, the other charged for man  
 With sweet oblivion of the cares of day :  
 Not sumptuously adorned, nor needing aid,  
 Like homely-featured night, of clustering gems :  
 A star or two, just twinkling on thy brow,  
 Suffices thee ; save that the moon is thine  
 No less than hers, not worn indeed on high  
 With ostentatious pageantry, but set  
 With modest grandeur in thy purple zone,  
 Resplendent less, but of an ampler round.

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. iv).

## 259. ENGLAND

ENGLAND, with all thy faults, I love thee still—  
 My country ! and, while yet a nook is left  
 Where English minds and manners may be found,  
 Shall be constrained to love thee. Though thy clime  
 Be fickle, and thy year most part deformed  
 With dripping rains, or withered by a frost,  
 I would not yet exchange thy sullen skies,  
 And fields without a flower, for warmer France  
 With all her vines ; nor for Ausonia's groves  
 Of golden fruitage, and her myrtle bowers.

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. ii).

## 260. EPITAPH ON A HARE

HERE lies, whom hound did ne'er pursue,  
Nor swifter greyhound follow,  
Whose foot ne'er tainted morning dew,  
Nor ear heard huntsman's hallo,  
Old Tiney, surliest of his kind,  
Who, nursed with tender care,  
And to domestic bounds confined,  
Was still a wild Jack-hare.  
Though duly from my hand he took  
His pittance every night,  
He did it with a jealous look,  
And, when he could, would bite.  
His diet was of wheaten bread,  
And milk, and oats, and straw,  
Thistles, or lettuces instead,  
With sand to scour his maw.  
On twigs of hawthorn he regaled,  
On pippins' russet peel ;  
And, when his juicy salads failed,  
Sliced carrot pleased him well.  
A Turkey carpet was his lawn,  
Whereon he loved to bound,  
To skip and gambol like a fawn,  
And swing his rump around.  
His frisking was at evening hours,  
For then he lost his fear ;  
But most before approaching showers,  
Or when a storm drew near.  
Eight years and five round-rolling moons  
He thus saw steal away,  
Dozing out all his idle noons,  
And every night at play.  
I kept him for his humour' sake,  
For he would oft beguile  
My heart of thoughts that made it ache,  
And force me to a smile.  
But now, beneath this walnut-shade  
He finds his long, last home,  
And waits in snug concealment laid,  
Till gentler Puss shall come.  
He, still more aged, feels the shocks  
From which no care can save,  
And, partner once of Tiney's box,  
Must soon partake his grave.

## 261. 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 bestowed upon man,  
 Oh, 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 cheered by the sallies of youth.

Religion ! what treasure untold  
 Resides in that heavenly word !  
 More precious than silver and gold,  
 Or all that this earth can afford.  
 But the sound of the church-going bell  
 These valleys and rocks never heard,  
 Ne'er sighed at the sound of a knell,  
 Or smiled when a sabbath appeared.

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-winged 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 is mercy in every place ;  
 And mercy, encouraging thought !  
 Gives even affliction a grace,  
 And reconciles man to his lot.

W. COWPER.

262. I WOULD NOT ENTER ON MY LIST OF FRIENDS

I WOULD not enter on my list of friends  
 (Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,  
 Yet wanting sensibility) the man  
 Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.  
 An inadvertent step may crush the snail  
 That crawls at evening in the public path ;  
 But he that has humanity, forewarned,  
 Will tread aside and let the reptile live.  
 The creeping vermin, loathsome to the sight,  
 And charged perhaps with venom, that intrudes,  
 A visitor unwelcome, into scenes  
 Sacred to neatness and repose—th' alcove,  
 The chamber, or refectory—may die :  
 A necessary act incurs no blame.

. . . . .  
 The sum is this.—If man's convenience, health,  
 Or safety, interfere, his rights and claims  
 Are paramount, and must extinguish theirs.

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. vi).

263. TO MARY UNWIN

MARY ! I want a lyre with other strings ;  
 Such aid from Heaven as some have feigned 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,—  
 Verse, 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.

#### 264. THE WINTER EVENING

Now stir the fire, and close the shutters fast,  
 Let fall the curtains, wheel the sofa round,  
 And, while the bubbling and loud-hissing urn  
 Throws up a steamy column, and the cups,  
 That cheer but not inebriate, wait on each,  
 So let us welcome peaceful evening in.  
 Not such his evening who, with shining face,  
 Sweats in the crowded theatre, and, squeezed  
 And bored with elbow-points through both his sides,  
 Outsolds the ranting actor on the stage :  
 Nor his, who patient stands till his feet throb,  
 And his head thumps, to feed upon the breath  
 Of patriots, bursting with heroic rage,  
 Or placemen, all tranquillity and smiles.

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. iv).

#### 265. OH THAT THOSE LIPS HAD LANGUAGE

OH that those lips had language ! Life has passed  
 With me but roughly since I heard thee last.  
 Those lips are thine—thy own sweet smiles I see,  
 The same that oft in childhood solaced me ;  
 Voice only fails, else, how distinct they say,  
 'Grieve not, my child, chase all thy fears away !'  
 The meek intelligence of those dear eyes  
 (Blest be the art that can immortalize,  
 The art that baffles time's tyrannic claim  
 To quench it) here shines on me still the same.  
 Faithful remembrancer of one so dear,  
 Oh welcome guest, though unexpected, here !  
 Who bidd'st me honour with an artless song,  
 Affectionate, a mother lost so long,  
 I will obey, not willingly alone,  
 But gladly, as the precept were her own ;  
 And, while that face renews my filial grief,  
 Fancy shall weave a charm in my relief—  
 Shall steep me in Elysian reverie,  
 A momentary dream, that thou art she.

W. COWPER (*On the receipt of my mother's  
 picture out of Norfolk*).

## 266. 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-bosomed as that watery glass,  
 And heaven reflected in her face.

W. COWPER.

## 267. TO MARY

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 playedst 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 uttered 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 pressed, press gently mine,  
     My Mary!

And then I feel that still I hold  
 A richer store ten thousandfold  
 Than misers fancy in their gold,  
     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 pressed with ill,  
 In wintry age to feel no chill,  
 With me is to be lovely still,  
     My Mary!

But oh! 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.

## 268. A SYMPATHY WITH SOUNDS

THERE is in souls a sympathy with sounds;  
 And, as the mind is pitched, the ear is pleased  
 With melting airs, or martial, brisk or grave:  
 Some chord in unison with what we hear  
 Is touched within us, and the heart replies.  
 How soft the music of those village bells,  
 Falling at intervals upon the ear  
 In cadence sweet, now dying all away,  
 Now pealing loud again, and louder still,  
 Clear and sonorous, as the gale comes on!

W. COWPER (*The Task*, Bk. vi).



## 269. ON THE 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 the 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 your 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  
 Must plough the wave no more.

W. COWPER.

## 270. FROM 'CHARITY'

WHEN one, that holds communion with the skies,  
 Has filled his urn where these pure waters rise,  
 And once more mingles with us meaner things,  
 'Tis even as if an angel shook his wings;  
 Immortal fragrance fills the circuit wide,  
 That tells us whence his treasures are supplied.  
 So, when a ship well-freighted with the stores  
 The sun matures on India's spicy shores,  
 Has dropped her anchor and her canvas furled  
 In some safe haven of our western world,  
 'Twere vain inquiry to what port she went;  
 The gale informs us, laden with the scent.  
 Some seek, when queasy conscience has its qualms,  
 To lull the painful malady with alms;  
 But charity, not feigned, intends alone  
 Another's good—theirs centres in their own;  
 And, too short-lived to reach the realms of peace,  
 Must cease for ever when the poor shall cease.  
 Flavia, most tender of her own good name,  
 Is rather careless of her sister's fame:  
 Her superfluity the poor supplies,  
 But, if she touch a character, it dies.

The seeming virtue weighed against the vice,  
 She deems all safe, for she has paid the price :  
 No charity but alms aught values she,  
 Except in porcelain on her mantel-tree.  
 How many deeds, with which the world has rung,  
 From pride, in league with ignorance, have sprung !  
 But God o'errules all human follies still,  
 And bends the tough materials to His will.  
 A conflagration or a wintry flood  
 Has left some hundreds without home or food ;  
 Extravagance and avarice shall subscribe,  
 While fame and self-complacence are the bribe.  
 The brief proclaimed, it visits every pew,  
 But first the squire's—a compliment but due.  
 With slow deliberation he unties  
 His glittering purse—that envy of all eyes !  
 And, while the clerk just puzzles out the psalm,  
 Slides guinea behind guinea in his palm ;  
 Till, finding (what he might have found before)  
 A smaller piece amidst the precious store,  
 Pinched close between his finger and his thumb,  
 He half exhibits, and then drops the sum.  
 Gold, to be sure !—Throughout the town 'tis told  
 How the good squire gives never less than gold.  
 From motives such as his, though not the best,  
 Springs in due time supply for the distressed ;  
 Not less effectual than what love bestows—  
 Except that office clips it as it goes.

W. COWPER.

### 271. BOADICEA : AN ODE

WHEN the British warrior queen,  
 Bleeding from the Roman rods,  
 Sought, with an indignant mien,  
 Counsel of her country's gods,

Sage beneath a spreading oak  
 Sat the Druid, hoary chief ;  
 Every burning word he spoke  
 Full of rage, and full of grief.

' Princess ! if our aged eyes  
 Weep upon thy matchless wrongs,  
 'Tis because resentment ties  
 All the terrors of our tongues.

' Rome shall perish—write that word  
 In the blood that she has spilt ;  
 Perish, hopeless and abhorred,  
 Deep in ruin as in guilt.

' Rome, for empire far renowned  
 Tramples on a thousand states ;  
 Soon her pride shall kiss the ground—  
 Hark ! the Gaul is at her gates !  
 ' Other Romans shall arise,  
 Heedless of a soldier's name ;  
 Sounds, not arms, shall win the prize—  
 Harmony the path to fame.  
 ' Then the progeny that springs  
 From the forests of our land,  
 Armed with thunder, clad with wings,  
 Shall a wider world command.  
 ' Regions Caesar never knew  
 Thy posterity shall sway,  
 Where his eagles never flew,  
 None invincible as they.'  
 Such the bard's prophetic words,  
 Pregnant with celestial fire,  
 Bending, as he swept the chords  
 Of his sweet but awful lyre.  
 She, with all a monarch's pride,  
 Felt them in her bosom glow ;  
 Rushed to battle, fought, and died ;  
 Dying, hurled them at the foe.  
 ' Ruffians, pitiless as proud,  
 Heaven awards the vengeance due ;  
 Empire is on us bestowed,  
 Shame and ruin wait for you.'

W. COWPER.

## 272. ALDBOROUGH

HERE, wandering long, amid these frowning fields,  
 I sought the simple life that Nature yields ;  
 Rapine and Wrong and Fear usurped her place,  
 And a bold, artful, surly, savage race ;  
 Who, only skilled to take the finny tribe,  
 The yearly dinner, or septennial bribe,  
 Wait on the shore, and, as the waves run high,  
 On the tossed vessel bend their eager eye,  
 Which to their coast directs its venturous way,  
 Theirs or the ocean's, miserable prey.  
 As on their neighbouring beach yon swallows stand,  
 And wait for favouring winds to leave the land ;  
 While still for flight the ready wing is spread :  
 So waited I the favouring hour, and fled ;

Fled from these shores where guilt and famine reign,  
 And cried, Ah! hapless they who still remain;  
 Who still remain to hear the ocean roar,  
 Whose greedy waves devour the lessening shore;  
 Till some fierce tide, with more imperious sway,  
 Sweeps the low hut and all it holds away.

G. CRABBE (*The Village*).

### 273. HIS MOTHER'S WEDDING-RING

THE ring so worn, as you behold,  
 So thin, so pale, is yet of gold:  
 The passion such it was to prove;  
 Worn with life's cares, love yet was love.

G. CRABBE.

### 274. BOOKS

THEY give  
 New views to life, and teach us how to live;  
 They soothe the grieved, the stubborn they chastise,  
 Fools they admonish, and confirm the wise:  
 Their aid they yield to all: they never shun  
 The man of sorrow, nor the wretch undone:  
 Unlike the hard, the selfish, and the proud,  
 They fly not sullen from the suppliant crowd;  
 Nor tell to various people various things,  
 But show to subjects what they show to kings.

Now bid thy soul man's busy scenes exclude,  
 And view composed this silent multitude:—  
 Silent they are, but, though deprived of sound,  
 Here all the living languages abound;  
 Here all that live no more; preserved they lie,  
 In tombs that open to the curious eye.  
 Blessed be the gracious Power, who taught mankind  
 To stamp a lasting image of the mind!

G. CRABBE (*The Library*).

### 275. LATE WISDOM

WE'VE trod the maze of error round,  
 Long wandering in the winding glade;  
 And now the torch of truth is found,  
 It only shows us where we strayed:  
 Light for ourselves, what is it worth,  
 When we no more our way can choose?  
 For others when we hold it forth,  
 They, in their pride, the boon refuse.

By long experience taught, we now  
 Can rightly judge of friends and foes,  
 Can all the worth of these allow,  
 And all their faults discern in those.  
 Relentless hatred, erring love,  
 We can for sacred truth forgo ;  
 We can the warmest friend reprove,  
 And bear to praise the fiercest foe :  
 To what effect ? Our friends are gone  
 Beyond reproof, regard or care ;  
 And of our foes remains there one  
 The mild relenting thoughts to share ?

Now 'tis our boast that we can quell  
 The wildest passions in their rage ;  
 Can their destructive force repel,  
 And their impetuous wrath assuage :  
 Ah ! Virtue, dost thou arm, when now  
 This bold rebellious race are fled ;  
 When all these tyrants rest, and thou  
 Art warring with the mighty dead ?

G. CRABBE (*Reflections*).

## 276. PHILOMELA

HER supple breast thrills out  
 Sharp airs, and staggers in a warbling doubt  
 Of dallying sweetness, hovers o'er her skill,  
 And folds in waved notes with a trembling bill  
 The pliant series of her slippery song ;  
 Then starts she suddenly into a throng  
 Of short thick sobs, whose thundering volleys float  
 And roll themselves over her lubric throat  
 In panting murmurs stilled out of her breast,  
 That ever-hubbling spring, the sugared nest  
 Of her delicious soul, that there does lie  
 Bathing in streams of liquid melody.

And while she thus discharges a shrill peal  
 Of flashing airs, she qualifies their zeal  
 With the cool epode of a graver note,  
 Thus high, thus low, as if her silver throat  
 Would reach the brazen note of War's hoarse bird.  
 Her little soul is ravished, and so poured  
 Into loose ecstasies, that she is placed  
 Above herself, Music's enthusiast !

R. CRASHAW (*Music's Duel*).

277. ON GEORGE HERBERT'S 'THE TEMPLE' SENT TO  
A GENTLEWOMAN

KNOW you, fair, on what you look ?  
 Divinest love lies in this book :  
 Expecting fire from your fair eyes,  
 To kindle this his sacrifice.  
 When your hands untie these strings,  
 Think, you've an angel by the wings ;  
 One that gladly would be nigh,  
 To wait upon each morning sigh ;  
 To flutter in the balmy air  
 Of your well-perfumèd prayer ;  
 These white plumes of his he'll lend you,  
 Which every day to heaven will send you :  
 To take acquaintance of each sphere,  
 And all your smooth-faced kindred there.  
 And though Herbert's name do owe  
 These devotions, fairest, know  
 While I thus lay them on the sbrine  
 Of your white hand, they are mine.

R. CRASHAW.

278. ON A PRAYER BOOK SENT TO MRS. M. R.

Lo, here a little volume, but great book !  
 A nest of new-born sweets,  
 Whose native fires disdaining  
 To be thus folded, and complaining  
 Of these ignoble sheets,  
 Affect more comely bands,  
 Fair one, from thy kind hands,  
 And confidently look  
 To find the rest  
 Of a rich binding in your breast !  
 It is in one choice handful, heaven ; and all  
 Heaven's royal host ; encamped thus small  
 To prove that true, schools use to tell,  
 A thousand angels in one point can dwell.  
 It is love's great artillery,  
 Which here contracts itself, and comes to lie  
 Close couched in your white bosom ; and from thence,  
 As from a snowy fortress of defence,  
 Against your ghostly foes to take your part,  
 And fortify the hold of your chaste heart.  
 It is an armoury of light ;  
 Let constant use but keep it bright,  
     You'll find it yields  
 To holy hands and humble hearts  
     More swords and shields \*

Than sin hath snares, or hell hath darts.  
 Only be sure  
 The hands be pure  
 That hold these weapons, and the eyes  
 Those of turtles, chaste and true,  
 Wakeful, and wise;  
 Here is a friend shall fight for you ;  
 Hold but this book before your heart,  
 Let prayer alone to play his part.

R. CRASHAW.

## 279. SAINT TERESA

O THOU undaunted daughter of desires !  
 By all thy dower of lights and fires ;  
 By all the eagle in thee, all the dove ;  
 By all thy lives and deaths of love ;  
 By thy large draughts of intellectual day,  
 And by thy thirsts of love more large than they ;  
 By all thy brim-filled bowls of fierce desire ;  
 By thy last morning's draught of liquid fire ;  
 By the full kingdom of that final kiss  
 That seized thy parting soul, and sealed thee His ;  
 By all the heavens thou hast in Him  
 (Fair sister of the seraphim ! ) ;  
 By all of Him we have in thee ;  
 Leave nothing of myself in me.  
 Let me so read thy life, that I  
 Unto all life of mine may die !

R. CRASHAW.

280. AN EPITAPH UPON HUSBAND AND WIFE WHO  
DIED AND WERE BURIED TOGETHER

To these whom death again did wed  
 This grave's their second marriage-bed.  
 For though the hand of Fate could force  
 'Twixt soul and body a divorce,  
 It could not sever man and wife,  
 'Cause they both lived but one life.  
 Peace, good reader, do not weep ;  
 Peace, the lovers are asleep.  
 They, sweet turtles, folded lie  
 In the last knot Love could tie.  
 Let them sleep, let them sleep on,  
 Till this stormy night be gone,  
 And the eternal morrow dawn ;  
 Then the curtains will be drawn,  
 And they wake into that light  
 Whose day shall never die in night.

R. CRASHAW.

## 281. TWO WENT UP INTO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY

Two went to pray ? oh, rather say  
One went to brag, the other to pray.

One stands up close, and treads on high,  
Where the other dares not send his eye,

One nearer to God's altar trod ;  
The other to the altar's God.

R. CRASHAW.

## 282. THE SHEPHERD'S SONG

WE saw thee in thy balmy nest,  
Young dawn of our eternal day ;  
We saw thine eyes break from the east,  
And chase the trembling shades away.  
We saw thee, and we blessed the sight ;  
We saw thee by thine own sweet light.

Poor world, said I, what wilt thou do  
To entertain this starry stranger ?  
Is this the best thou canst bestow—  
A cold and not too cleanly manger ?  
Contend, the powers of heaven and earth,  
To fit a bed for this huge birth.

Proud world, said I, cease your contest,  
And let the mighty babe alone ;  
The phoenix builds the phoenix' nest,  
Love's architecture is his own.  
The babe, whose birth embraces this morn,  
Made his own bed ere He was born.

R. CRASHAW (*A Hymn of the Nativity*).

## 283. FROM ' WISHES FOR THE SUPPOSED MISTRESS '

WHOE'ER she be,  
That not impossible She  
That shall command my heart and me ;

Where'er she lie,  
Locked 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 he ye called my absent kisses.

I wish her Beauty  
That owes not all his duty  
To gaudy tire, or glistening shoe-tie ;

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

More than the spoil  
Of shops or silkworm's toil,  
Or a bought blush, or a set smile.

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.

A cheek where youth  
And blood, with pen of truth,  
Write what the reader sweetly rueth.

A cheek where grows  
More than a morning rose ;  
Which to no box his being owes.

Lips where all day  
A lover's kiss may play  
Yet carry nothing thence away.

Looks that oppress  
Their richest tires, but dress  
And clothe their simplest nakedness.

Eyes that displace  
The neighbour diamond, and outface  
That sunshine by their own sweet grace.

Tresses that wear  
Jewels but to declare  
How much themselves more precious are,

Whose native ray  
Can tame the wanton day  
Of gems, that in their bright shades play.

R. CRASHAW.

## 284. EUTHANASIA

WOULDST see blithe looks, fresh cheeks beguile  
 Age ? wouldst see December smile ?  
 Wouldst see nests of new roses grow  
 In a bed of reverend snow ?  
 Warm thoughts, free spirits, flattering  
 Winter's self into a spring ?  
 In sum wouldst see a man that can  
 Live to be old, and still a man ?  
 Whose latest and most leaden hours,  
 Fall with soft wings stuck with soft flowers ;  
 And, when life's sweet fable ends,  
 Soul and body part like friends ;  
 No quarrels, murmurs, no delay—  
 A kiss, a sigh, and so away.  
 This rare one, reader, wouldst thou see ?  
 Hark hither !—and thyself be he.

R. CRASHAW.

## 285. A WET SHEET AND A FLOWING SEA

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 give 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 hornèd 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.

## 286. HAME, HAME, HAME

HAME, hame, hame, O hame fain wad I be,  
O, hame, hame, hame, to my ain countree!

When the flower is i' the bud and the leaf is on the tree,  
The larks shall sing me hame in my ain countree.

Hame, hame, hame, O hame fain wad I be,  
O hame, hame, hame, to my ain countree!

The green leaf o' loyaltie's beginning for to fa',  
The bonnie white rose it is withering an' a';  
But I'll water 't wi' the blude of usurping tyrannie,  
An' green it will graw in my ain countree.

O, there's nocht now frae ruin my country can save,  
But the keys o' kind heaven, to open the grave:  
That a' the noble martyrs wha died for loyaltie,  
May rise again an' fight for their ain countree.

The great now are gane, a' wha ventured to save,  
The new grass is springing on the tap o' their grave;  
But the sun thro' the mirk blinks blythe in my e'e,  
'I'll shine on ye yet in your ain countree.'

Hame, hame, hame, O hame fain wad I be,  
Hame, hame, hame, to my ain countree!

A. CUNNINGHAM

## 287. THE SUN RISES BRIGHT IN FRANCE

THE sun rises bright in France,  
And fair sets he;  
But he has tint the blythe blink he had  
In my ain countree.

Oh, it's nae my ain ruin  
That saddens ay my e'e,  
But the dear Marie I left behin',  
Wi' sweet bairnies three.

My lanely hearth burned bonnie,  
And smiled my ain Marie;  
I've left a' my heart behin'  
In my ain countree.

The bud comes back to summer,  
And the blossom to the bee;  
But I'll win back, oh, never,  
To my ain countree.

Oh, I am leal to high Heaven,  
Where soon I hope to be,  
An' there I'll meet ye a' soon  
Frae my ain countree!

A. CUNNINGHAM.

## 288. CARE-CHARMER SLEEP

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.

## 289. LOVE IS A SICKNESS

LOVE is a sickness full of woes,  
 All remedies refusing ;  
 A plant that with most cutting grows,  
 Most barren with best using.

Why so ?

More we enjoy it, more it dies ;  
 If not enjoyed, it sighing cries  
 Heigh-ho !

Love is a torment of the mind,  
 A tempest everlasting ;  
 And Jove hath made it of a kind  
 Not well, nor full, nor fasting.

Why so ?

More we enjoy it, more it dies ;  
 If not enjoyed, it sighing cries  
 Heigh-ho !

S. DANIEL (*Hymen's Triumph*).

## 290. O BLESSED LETTERS

O BLESSED Letters ! that combine in one  
 All ages past, and make one live with all.  
 By you we do confer with who are gone,  
 And the dead-living unto council call ;  
 By you the unhorn shall have communion  
 Of what we feel and what doth us befall.

What good is like to this,  
 To do worthy the writing, and to write  
 Worthy the reading, and the world's delight ?

S. DANIEL (*Musophilus*).

291. WHEN MEN SHALL FIND THY FLOWER, THY GLORY,  
PASS

WHEN men shall find thy flower, thy glory, pass,  
 And thou with careful brow, sitting alone,  
 Received hast this message from thy glass,  
 That tells the truth and says that all is gone;  
 Fresh shalt thou see in me the wounds thou mad'st,  
 Though spent thy flame, in me the heat remaining:  
 I that have loved thee thus before thou fad'st—  
 My faith shall wax, when thou art in thy waning.  
 The world shall find this miracle in me,  
 That fire can burn when all the matter's spent:  
 Then what my faith hath been thyself shalt see,  
 And that thou wast unkind thou mayst repent.  
 Thou mayst repent that thou hast scorned my tears,  
 When Winter snows upon thy sable hairs.

S. DANIEL.

## 292. ROBIN'S CROSS

A LITTLE CROSS  
 To tell my loss;  
 A little bed  
 To rest my head;  
 A little tear is all I crave  
 Upon my very little grave.

I strew thy bed,  
 Who loved thy lays,  
 The tear I shed,  
 The cross I raise,  
 With nothing more upon it than—  
 Here lies the little friend of man.

G. DARLEY.

## 293. IT IS NOT BEAUTY I DEMAND

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 trembling 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 sips  
 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 ?

Give me, instead of Beauty's bust,  
A tender heart, a loyal mind,  
Which with temptation I could trust,  
Yet never linked with error find.

G. DARLEY.

## 294. WHEREFORE, UNLAURELLED BOY

WHEREFORE, unlaurelled Boy,  
Whom the contemptuous Muse will not inspire,  
With a sad kind of joy,  
Still sing'st thou to thy solitary lyre ?

The melancholy winds  
Pour through unnumbered reeds their idle woes,  
And every Naiad finds  
A stream to weep her sorrow as it flows.

Her sighs unto the air  
The wood-maid's native oak doth broadly tell,  
And Echo's fond despair  
Intelligible rocks re-syllable.

Wherefore then should not I,  
Albeit no haughty Muse my breast inspire,  
Fated of grief to die,  
Impart it to a solitary lyre ?

G. DARLEY.

## 295. STEEL

HAIL, adamantine Steel ! magnetic Lord !  
King of the prow, the ploughshare, and the sword !  
True to the pole, by thee the pilot guides  
His steady helm amid the struggling tides ;  
Braves with broad sail the immeasurable sea,  
Cleaves the dark air, and asks no star but thee.—  
By thee the ploughshare rends the matted plain,  
Inhumes in level rows the living grain ;  
Intrusive forests quit the cultured ground,  
And Ceres laughs, with golden fillets crowned.—  
O'er restless realms, when scowling discord flings  
Her snakes, and loud the din of battle rings ;  
Expiring strength, and vanquished courage feel  
Thy arm resistless, adamantine Steel !

E. DARWIN (*The Botanic Garden*).

296. THE POPYRUS

POPYRA, throned upon the banks of Nile,  
 Spread her smooth leaf, and waved her silver style.  
 The storied pyramid, the laurelled bust,  
 The trophied arch had crumbled into dust ;  
 The sacred symbol, and the epic song  
 (Unknown the character, forgot the tongue),  
 With each unconquered chief, or sainted maid,  
 Sunk undistinguished in Oblivion's shade.  
 Sad o'er the scattered ruins Genius sighed,  
 And infant Arts but learned to lisp, and died,  
 Till to astonished realms Popyra taught  
 To paint in mystic colours sound and thought.  
 With Wisdom's voice to print the page sublime,  
 And mark in adamant the steps of Time.

E. DARWIN (*The Botanic Garden*).

297. THE SOLDIER GOING TO THE FIELD

<p>PRESERVE thy sighs, unthrifty              girl.              To purify the air !              Thy tears to thread, instead of              pearl,              On bracelets of thy hair.              The trumpet makes the echo              hoarse,              And wakes the louder drum.              Expense of grief gains no remorse,              When sorrow should be dumb.              For I must go where lazy Peace              Will hide her drowsy head,              And, for the sport of kings,              increase              The number of the dead.</p>	<p>But, first, I'll chide thy cruel              theft :              Can I in war delight,              Who (being of my heart bereft)              Can have no heart to fight ?              Thou knowst, the sacred laws of              old              Ordained a thief should pay,              To quit him of his theft, sevenfold              What he had stolen away.              Thy payment shall but double be,              Oh then with speed resign              My own seduced heart to me,              Accompanied with thine.              SIR W. DAVENANT.</p>
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298. SHE NE'ER SAW COURTS, YET COURTS COULD  
 HAVE UNDONE

SHE ne'er saw courts, yet courts could have undone,  
 With untaught looks and an unpractised heart ;  
 Her nets, the most prepared could never shun ;  
 For Nature spread them in the scorn of art.  
 She never had in busy cities been,  
 Ne'er warmed with hopes, nor e'er allayed with fears ;  
 Not seeing punishment, could guess no sin ;  
 And sin not seeing, ne'er had use of tears.

. . . . .

And as kind Nature with calm diligence  
 Her own free virtue silently employs,  
 Whilst she, unheard, does ripening growth dispense,  
 So were her virtues busy without noise.

Whilst her great mistress, Nature, thus she tends,  
 The busy household waits no less on her ;  
 By secret law, each to her beauty bends ;  
 Though all her lowly mind to that prefer.

SIR W. DAVENANT (*Gondibert*).

### 299. THE LARK NOW LEAVES HIS WATERY NEST

THE lark now leaves his watery nest  
 And climbing shakes his dewy wings.  
 He takes this window for the East,  
 And to implore your light he sings—  
 Awake, awake ! the morn will never rise  
 Till she can dress her beauty at your eyes.

The merchant bows unto the seaman's star,  
 The ploughman from the sun his season takes ;  
 But still the lover wonders what they are  
 Who look for day before his mistress wakes.  
 Awake, awake ! break through your veils of lawn !  
 Then draw your curtains, and begin the dawn !

SIR W. DAVENANT.

### 300. THE FOLLY OF KNOWLEDGE

WHY did my parents send me to the schools,  
 That I with knowledge might enrich my mind,  
 Since the desire to know first made men fools,  
 And did corrupt the root of all mankind ?

I know my body's of so frail a kind,  
 As force without, fevers within, can kill ;  
 I know the heavenly nature of my mind,  
 But 'tis corrupted both in wit and will.

I know my soul hath power to know all things,  
 Yet is she blind and ignorant in all ;  
 I know I'm one of nature's little kings,  
 Yet to the least and vilest things am thrall.

I know my life's a pain, and but a span ;  
 I know my sense is mocked in everything ;  
 And, to conclude, I know myself a man,  
 Which is a proud, and yet a wretched thing.

SIR J. DAVIES (*The Immortality of the Soul*).



301. WHEREVER GOD ERECTS A HOUSE OF PRAYER

WHEREVER God erects a house of prayer,  
 The Devil always builds a chapel there :  
 And 'twill be found upon examination  
 The latter has the largest congregation :  
 For ever since he first debauched the mind,  
 He made a perfect conquest of mankind.

D. DEFOE (*The True-born Englishman*).

302. ART THOU POOR, YET HAST THOU GOLDEN  
 SLUMBERS ?

ART thou poor, yet hast thou golden slumbers ?  
 O sweet content !

Art thou rich, yet is thy mind perplexèd ?  
 O punishment !

Dost thou laugh to see how fools are vexèd  
 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 crispèd 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 (*Patient Grissel*).

303. COLD'S THE WIND

COLD's the wind, and wet's the rain,  
 Saint Hugh be our good speed !  
 Ill is the weather that bringeth no gain,  
 Nor helps good hearts in need.

Troll the bowl, the jolly nut-brown bowl,  
 And here, kind mate, to thee !  
 Let's sing a dirge for Saint Hugh's soul,  
 And down it merrily.

T. DEKKER (*The Shoemaker's Holiday*).

## 304. GOLDEN SLUMBERS KISS YOUR EYES

GOLDEN slumbers kiss your eyes, Smiles awake you when you rise. Sleep, pretty wantons, do not cry, And I will sing a lullaby. Rock them, rock them, lullaby.	Care is heavy, therefore sleep you. You are care, and care must keep you. Sleep, pretty wantons, do not cry, And I will sing a lullaby. Rock them, rock them, lullaby. T. DEKKER ( <i>Patient Grissel</i> ).
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## 305. THE THAMES

THAMES! the most loved of all the Ocean's sons  
 By his old sire, to his embraces runs,  
 Hasting to pay his tribute to the sea,  
 Like mortal life to meet eternity.

Oh, could I flow like thee, and make thy stream  
 My great example, as it is my theme!  
 Though deep, yet clear; though gentle, yet not dull;  
 Strong without rage; without o'erflowing, full.

SIR J. DENHAM (*Cooper's Hill*).

## 306. A PASSION OF MY LORD OF ESSEX

HAPPY were he could finish forth his fate  
 In some unhaunted desert, most obscure  
 From all societies, from love and hate  
 Of worldly folk; then might he sleep secure;  
 Then wake again, and ever give God praise,  
 Content with hips and haws and bramble-berry;  
 In contemplation spending all his days,  
 And change of holy thoughts to make him merry;  
 Where, when he dies, his tomb may be a bush,  
 Where harmless Robin dwells with gentle thrush.

ROBERT DEVEREUX, EARL OF ESSEX.

## 307. TOM BOWLING

HERE, a sheer hulk, lies poor Tom Bowling,  
 The darling of our crew;  
 No more he'll hear the tempest howling,  
 For Death has broached him to.  
 His form was of the manliest beauty,  
 His heart was kind and soft;  
 Faithful below he did his duty,  
 And now he's gone aloft.

Tom never from his word departed,  
 His virtues were so rare;  
 His friends were many and true-hearted,  
 His Poll was kind and fair:

And then he'd sing so blithe and jolly,  
 Ah, many's the time and oft !  
 But mirth is turned to melancholy,  
 For Tom is gone aloft.

Yet shall poor Tom find pleasant weather,  
 When He, who all commands,  
 Shall give, to call Life's crew together,  
 The word to 'pipe all hands'.  
 Thus Death, who kings and tars dispatches,  
 In vain Tom's life has doffed ;  
 For though his body's under hatches,  
 His soul is gone aloft.

C. DIBDIN.

### 308. THE IVY GREEN

OH, a dainty plant is the Ivy green,  
 That creepeth o'er ruins old !  
 Of right choice food are his meals I ween,  
 In his cell so lone and cold.  
 The wall must be crumbled, the stone decayed,  
 To pleasure his dainty whim :  
 And the mouldering dust that years have made  
 Is a merry meal for him.

Creeping where no life is seen,  
 A rare old plant is the Ivy green.

Fast he stealeth on, though he wears no wings,  
 And a stanch old heart has he.  
 How closely he twineth, how tight he clings  
 To his friend the huge Oak Tree !  
 And slyly he traileth along the ground,  
 And his leaves he gently waves,  
 As he joyously hugs and crawleth round  
 The rich mould of dead men's graves.

Creeping where grim death has been,  
 A rare old plant is the Ivy green.

Whole ages have fled and their works decayed,  
 And nations have scattered been ;  
 But the stout old Ivy shall never fade,  
 From its hale and hearty green.  
 The brave old plant in its lonely days,  
 Shall fatten upon the past :  
 For the stateliest building man can raise,  
 Is the Ivy's food at last.

Creeping on, where time has been,  
 A rare old plant is the Ivy green.

C. DICKENS.

## 309. 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.

## 310. ODE

*That time and absence proves  
Rather helps than hurts to loves.*

ABSENCE, hear thou my protesta-  
tion

Against thy strength,  
Distance and length :

Do what thou canst for altera-  
tion,

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 present, time doth  
tarry.

<p>My senses want their outward          motion,          Which now within          Reason doth win,          Redoubled by her secret notion;          Like rich men that take pleasure          In hiding more than handling          treasure.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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J. DONNE.

## 311. THE BAIT

COME live with me, and be my love,  
 And we will some new pleasures prove  
 Of golden sands, and crystal brooks,  
 With silken lines and silver hooks.

There will the river whispering run  
 Warmed by thy eyes, more than the sun;  
 And there the enamoured fish will stay,  
 Begging themselves they may betray.

When thou wilt swim in that live bath,  
 Each fish, which every channel hath,  
 Will amorously to thee swim,  
 Gladder to catch thee, than thou him.

If thou, to be so seen, beest loath,  
 By sun or moon, thou darkenest both,  
 And if myself have leave to see,  
 I need not their light, having thee.

Let others freeze with angling reeds,  
 And cut their legs with shells and weeds,  
 Or treacherously poor fish beset,  
 With strangling snare, or windowy net.

Let coarse bold hands from slimy nest  
 The bedded fish in banks out-wrest;  
 Or curious traitors, sleeve-silk flies,  
 Bewitch poor fishes' wandering eyes.

For thee, thou need'st no such deceit,  
 For thou thyself art thine own bait:  
 That fish, that is not caught thereby,  
 Alas! is wiser far than I.

J. DONNE.

## 312. DEATH, BE NOT PROUD

DEATH, be not proud, though some have callèd thee  
 Mighty and dreadful, for thou art not so :  
 For those, whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow,  
 Die not, poor Death ; nor yet canst thou kill me.  
 From rest and sleep, which but thy picture be,  
 Much pleasure, then from thee much more must flow ;  
 And soonest our best men with thee do go,  
 Rest of their bones and souls' delivery.  
 Thou'rt slave to Fate, chance, kings, and desperate men,  
 And dost with poison, war, and sickness dwell ;  
 And poppy or charms can make us sleep as well  
 And better than thy stroke ; why swell'st thou then ?  
 One short sleep past, we wake eternally,  
 And Death shall be no more : Death, thou shalt die.

J. DONNE.

## 313. GO AND CATCH A FALLING STAR

Go and catch a falling star,  
 Get with child a mandrake root,  
 Tell me where all past years are,  
 Or who cleft the Devil's foot ;  
 Teach me to hear mermaids singing,  
 Or to keep off envy's stinging,  
 And find  
 What wind  
 Serves to advance an honest mind.

If thou beest born to strange sights,  
 Things invisible to see,  
 Ride ten thousand days and nights  
 Till age snow white hairs on thee ;  
 Thou, when thou return'st, wilt tell me  
 All strange wonders that befell thee,  
 And swear,  
 No where  
 Lives a woman true and fair.

If thou find'st one, let me know ;  
 Such a pilgrimage were sweet.  
 Yet do not ; I would not go,  
 Though at next door we might meet.  
 Though she were true when you met her,  
 And last till you write your letter,  
 Yet she  
 Will be  
 False, ere I come, to two or three.

J. DONNE.

## 314. LOVE'S DEITY

I LONG to talk with some old lover's ghost,  
 Who died before the god of love was born.  
 I cannot think that he, who then loved most,  
 Sunk so low as to love one which did scorn.  
 But since this god produced a destiny,  
 And that vice-nature, custom, lets it be,  
 I must love her that loves not me.

Sure, they which made him god, meant not so much,  
 Nor he in his young godhead practised it.  
 But when an even flame two hearts did touch,  
 His office was indulgently to fit  
 Actives to passives. Correspondency  
 Only his subject was ; it cannot be  
 Love, till I love her, who loves me.

But every modern god will now extend  
 His vast prerogative as far as Jove.  
 To rage, to lust, to write to, to commend,  
 All is the purlieu of the god of love.  
 Oh ! were we wakened by this tyranny  
 To ungod this child again, it could not be  
 I should love her, who loves not me.

Rebel and atheist too, why murmur I,  
 As though I felt the worst that love could do ?  
 Love may make me leave loving, or might try  
 A deeper plague, to make her love me too ;  
 Which, since she loves before, I'm loath to see.  
 Falseness is worse than hate ; and that must be,  
 If she whom I love, should love me.

J. DONNE.

## 315. THE GOOD MORROW

I WONDER, by my troth, what thou and I  
 Did, till we loved ? were we not weaned till then ?  
 But sucked on country pleasures, childishly ?  
 Or snored we in the Seven Sleepers' den ?  
 'Twas so ; but this, all pleasures fancies be ;  
 If ever any beauty I did see,  
 Which I desired, and got, 'twas but a dream of thee.

And now good-morrow to our waking souls,  
 Which watch not one another out of fear ;  
 For love all love of other sights controls,  
 And makes one little room an everywhere.  
 Let sea-discoverers to new worlds have gone ;  
 Let maps to other, worlds on worlds have shown,  
 Let us possess one world ; each hath one, and is one.

My face in thine eye, thine in mine appears,  
 And true plain hearts do in the faces rest ;  
 Where can we find two better hemispheres  
 Without sharp north, without declining west ?  
 Whatever dies, was not mixed equally ;  
 If our two loves be one, or thou and I  
 Love so alike that none can slacken, none can die.  
J. DONNE.

316. A HYMN TO CHRIST, AT THE AUTHOR'S LAST  
 GOING INTO GERMANY

In what torn ship soever I embark,  
 That ship shall be my emblem of Thy ark ;  
 What sea soever swallow me, that flood  
 Shall be to me an emblem of Thy blood ;  
 Though Thou with clouds of anger do disguise  
 Thy face, yet through that mask I know those eyes,  
     Which, though they turn away sometimes,  
     They never will despise.

I sacrifice this island unto Thee,  
 And all whom I love there, and who love me ;  
 When I have put our seas 'twixt them and me,  
 Put thou Thy seas betwixt my sins and Thee.  
 As the tree's sap doth seek the root below  
 In winter, in my winter now I go,  
     Where none but Thee, the eternal root  
     Of true love, I may know.

Seal then this bill of my divorce to all,  
 On whom those fainter beams of love did fall ;  
 Marry those loves, which in youth scattered be  
 On fame, wit, hopes—false mistresses—to Thee.  
 Churches are best for prayer, that have least light ;  
 To see God only, I go out of sight ;  
     And to escape stormy days, I choose  
     An everlasting night.

J. DONNE.

317. A HYMN TO GOD THE FATHER

WILT Thou forgive that sin where I begun,  
 Which was my sin, though it were done before ?  
 Wilt Thou forgive that sin, through which I run,  
     And do run still, though still I do deplore ?  
 When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done ;  
     For I have more.



Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I have won  
 Others to sin, and made my sin their door ?  
 Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I did shun  
 A year or two, but wallowed in a score ?  
 When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done ;  
 For I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun  
 My last thread, I shall perish on the shore ;  
 But swear by Thyself, that at my death Thy Son  
 Shall shine as He shines now, and heretofore :  
 And, having done that, Thou hast done ;  
 I fear no more.

J. DONNE.

## 318. 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 Moyses, 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* (An incident in the China War, which ended in 1860).

*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  
 seemed,

Like dreams, to come and go ;  
 Bright leagues of cherry-blossom  
 gleamed,

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,  
 Doomed 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, un-  
 tamed,

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.

## 319. PIGWIGGEN ARMING

AND quickly arms him for the  
field,

A little cockle-shell his shield,  
Which he could very bravely  
wield :

Yet could it not be pierced :  
His spear a bent both stiff and  
strong,

And well near of two inches long ;  
The pile was of a horse-fly's  
tongue,

Whose sharpness nought re-  
versed.

And puts him on a coat of mail,  
Which was of a fish's scale,  
That when his foe should him  
assail,

No point should be prevailing :  
His rapier was a hornet's sting,  
It was a very dangerous thing :  
For if he chanced to hurt the king,  
It would be long in healing.

His helmet was a beetle's head,  
Most horrible and full of dread,  
That able was to strike one dead,

Yet did it well become him :  
And for a plume, a horse's hair,  
Which being tossèd with the air,  
Had force to strike his foe with  
fear,

And turn his weapon from him.

Himself he on an earwig set,  
Yet scarce he on his back could  
get,

So oft and high he did curvet,  
Ere he himself could settle :  
He made him turn, and stop, and  
hound,

To gallop, and to trot the round,  
He scarce could stand on any  
ground,

He was so full of mettle.

M. DRAYTON (*Nymphidia*).

## 320. THE BALLAD OF AGINCOURT

FAIR stood the wind for France,  
When we our sails advance,  
Nor now to prove our chance,  
Longer will tarry ;

But putting to the main,  
At Kaux, the mouth of Seine,  
With all his martial train,  
Landed King Harry.

And taking many a fort,  
Furnished in warlike sort  
Marcheth tow'rd's Agincourt  
In happy hour ;

Skirmishing day by day  
With those that stopped his way,  
Where the French general lay,  
With all his power.

Which in his height of pride,  
King Henry to deride,  
His ransom to provide  
To the king sending.

Which he neglects the while,  
As from a nation vile,  
Yet with an angry smile,  
Their fall portending.

And turning to his men,  
Quoth our brave Henry then,  
Though they to one he ten,  
Be not amazed.

Yet have we well begun,  
Battles so bravely won,  
Have ever to the sun  
By fame been raised.

And, for myself (quoth he),  
This my full rest shall be,  
England ne'er mourn for me,  
Nor more esteem me.

Victor I will remain,  
Or on this earth lie slain,  
Never shall she sustain  
Loss to redeem me.

Poitiers and Cressy tell,  
 When most their pride did swell,  
 Under our swords they fell,  
     No less our skill is,  
 Than when our grandsire great,  
 Claiming the regal seat,  
 By many a warlike feat,  
     Lopped the French lilies.

The Duke of York so dread,  
 The eager vaward led ;  
 With the main, Henry sped,  
     Amongst his henchmen.  
 Excester had the rear,  
 A braver man not there ;  
 O Lord, how hot they were  
     On the false Frenchmen !

They now to fight are gone,  
 Armour on armour shone,  
 Drum now to drum did groan,  
     To hear was wonder ;  
 That with the cries they make,  
 The very earth did shake,  
 Trumpet to trumpet spake,  
     Thunder to thunder.

Well it thine age became,  
 O noble Erpingham,  
 Which didst the signal aim  
     To our hid forces ;  
 When from a meadow by,  
 Like a storm suddenly  
 The English archery  
     Stuck the French horses.

With Spanish yew so strong,  
 Arrows a cloth-yard long,  
 That like to serpents stung,  
     Piercing the weather ;  
 None from his fellow starts,  
 But playing manly parts,  
 And like true English hearts  
     Stuck close together.

When down their bows they threw,  
 And forth their bilbows drew.  
 And on the French they flew,  
     Not one was tardy ;  
 Arms were from shoulders sent,  
 Scalps to the teeth were rent,  
 Down the French peasants went,  
     Our men were hardy.

This while our noble King,  
 His broad sword brandishing,  
 Down the French host did ding,  
     As to o'erwhelm it ;  
 And many a deep wound lent,  
 His arms with blood besprent,  
 And many a cruel dent  
     Bruisèd his helmet.

Gloucester, that Duke so good,  
 Next of the royal blood,  
 For famous England stood,  
     With his brave brother ;  
 Clarence, in steel so bright,  
 Though but a maiden knight,  
 Yet in that famous fight,  
     Scarce such another.

Warwick in blood did wade,  
 Oxford the foe invade,  
 And cruel slaughter made,  
     Still as they ran up ;  
 Suffolk his axe did ply,  
 Beaumont and Willoughby  
 Bare them right doughtily,  
     Ferrers and Fanhope.

Upon Saint Crispin's day  
 Fought was this noble fray,  
 Which fame did not delay  
     To England to carry ;  
 Oh, when shall Englishmen  
 With such acts fill a pen,  
 Or England breed again  
     Such a King Harry ?  
                             M. DRAYTON.

## 321. IMMORTALITY IN SONG

How many paltry, foolish, painted things,  
 That now in coaches trouble every street,  
 Shall be forgotten, whom no poet sings,  
 Ere they be well wrapped in their winding-sheet ?  
 Where I to thee eternity shall give,  
 When nothing else remaineth of these days,  
 And queens hereafter shall be glad to live  
 Upon the alms of thy superfluous praise ;  
 Virgins and matrons reading these my rhymes,  
 Shall be so much delighted with thy story,  
 That they shall grieve they lived not in these times,  
 To have seen thee, their sex's only glory :  
 So shalt thou fly above the vulgar throng,  
 Still to survive in my immortal song. M. DRAYTON.

## 322. TO HIS COY LOVE

<p>I PRAY thee leave, love me no more,          Call home the heart you gave me,          I but in vain that saint adore,          That can, but will not save me :          These poor half-kisses kill me quite ;          Was ever man thus servèd ?          Amidst an ocean of delight,          For pleasure to be starvèd.          Show me no more those snowy          breasts,          With azure riverets branched,          Where whilst my eye with plenty          feasts,          Yet is my thirst not stanchèd.</p>	<p>O Tantalus, thy pains ne'er tell,          By me thou art prevented ;          'Tis nothing to be plagued in hell,          But thus in heaven tormented.          Clip me no more in those dear arms,          Nor thy life's comfort call me ;          Oh, these are but too powerful          charms,          And do but more enthrall me.          But see, how patient I am grown,          In all this coil about thee ;          Come, nicething, let my heart alone.          I cannot live without thee.          M. DRAYTON.</p>
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323. SINCE THERE'S NO HELP, COME LET US KISS  
AND PART

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 wouldst, when all have given him over,  
 From death to life thou mightst him yet recover.  
 M. DRAYTON.

## 324. SOME ATHEIST IN LOVE

SOME atheist or vile infidel in love,  
 When I do speak of thy divinity,  
 May blaspheme thus, and say I flatter thee,  
 And only write my skill in verse to prove.  
 See miracles, ye unbelieving ! see  
 A dumb-born Muse made to express the mind,  
 A cripple hand to write, yet lame by kind,  
 One by thy name, the other touching thee.  
 Blind were my eyes, till they were seen of thine,  
 And mine ears deaf by thy fame healèd be ;  
 My vices cured by virtues sprung from thee,  
 My hopes revived, which long in grave had lyne :  
 All unclean thoughts, foul spirits, cast out in me  
 By thy great power, and by strong faith in thee.

M. DRAYTON.

## 325. TO THE VIRGINIAN VOYAGE

You brave heroic minds,  
 Worthy your country's name ;  
 That honour still pursue,  
 Go, and subdue,  
 Whilst loitering hinds  
 Lurk here at home, with shame.

Britons, you stay too long,  
 Quickly aboard bestow you,  
 And with a merry gale  
 Swell your stretched sail,  
 With vows as strong,  
 As the winds that blow you.

Your course securely steer,  
 West and by south forth keep,  
 Rocks, lee-shores, nor shoals,  
 When Aeolus scowls,  
 You need not fear,  
 So absolute the deep.

And cheerfully at sea  
 Success you still entice,  
 To get the pearl and gold,  
 And ours to hold  
 Virginia,  
 Earth's only Paradise.

Where Nature hath in store  
 Fowl, venison, and fish,  
 And the fruitfulest soil,  
 Without your toil,  
 Three harvests more,  
 All greater than your wish.

And the ambitious vine  
 Crowns with his purple mass  
 The cedar reaching high  
 To kiss the sky,  
 The cypress, pine  
 And useful sassafras.

To whom the Golden Age  
 Still Nature's laws doth give,  
 No other cares that tend,  
 But them to defend  
 From winter's rage,  
 That long there doth not live.

When as the luscious smell  
 Of that delicious land,  
 Above the seas that flows,  
 The clear wind throws,  
 Your hearts to swell  
 Approaching the dear strand ;

In keeping of the shore  
 (Thanks to God first given)  
 O you the happiest men  
 Be frolic then,  
 Let cannons roar  
 Frighting the wide heaven.

And in regions far  
 Such heroes bring ye forth,  
 As those from whom we came,  
 And plant our name,  
 Under that star  
 Not known unto our North.

And as there plenty grows  
 Of laurel everywhere,  
 Apollo's sacred tree,  
 You may it see,  
 A poet's brows  
 To crown, that may sing there.

Thy voyages attend,  
 Industrious Hackluyt,  
 Whose reading shall inflame  
 Men to seek fame,  
 And much commend  
 To after-times thy wit.

M. DRAYTON.

### 326. ALEXIS, HERE SHE STAYED

ALEXIS, here she stayed ; among these pines,  
 Sweet hermitress, she did alone repair ;  
 Here did she spread the treasure of her hair,  
 More rich than that brought from the Colchian mines.  
 She set her by these muskèd eglantines,  
 The happy place the print seems yet to bear ;  
 Her voice did sweeten here thy sugared lines,  
 To which winds, trees, beasts, birds, did lend their ear.  
 Me here she first perceived, and here a morn  
 Of bright carnations did o'erspread her face,  
 Here did she sigh, here first my hopes were born,  
 And I first got a pledge of promised grace  
 But, ah ! what served it to be happy so,  
 Sith passèd pleasure double but new woe ?

W. DRUMMOND.

### 327. LIKE THE IDALIAN QUEEN

LIKE the Idalian Queen,  
 Her hair about her eyne  
 With neck and breast's ripe apples to be seen,  
 At first glance of the morn,  
 In Cyprus' gardens gathering those fair flowers  
 Which of her blood were born,  
 I saw, but fainting saw, my paramours.  
 The Graces naked danced about the place,  
 The winds and trees amazed  
 With silence on her gazed ;  
 The flowers did smile like those upon her face,  
 And as their aspen stalks those fingers band,  
 That she might read my case,  
 A hyacinth I wished me in her hand.

W. DRUMMOND.

## 328. MY THOUGHTS HOLD MORTAL STRIFE

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 decked with beauty's rose his tomb,  
 Disdains to crop a weed, and will not come.

W. DRUMMOND.

## 329. THE BOOK 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 coloured vellum, leaves of gold,  
 Fair dangling ribands, leaving what is best,  
 On the great Writer's sense ne'er taking hold ;  
 Or if by chance our minds do muse on aught,  
 It is some picture on the margin wrought.

W. DRUMMOND.

## 330. PHOEBUS ARISE

PHOEBUS, arise,  
 And paint the sable skies  
 With azure, white, and red ;  
 Rouse Memnon's mother from her Tithon's bed,  
 That she thy career may 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.

W. DRUMMOND.

## 331. TO CHLORIS

SEE, Chloris, how the clouds  
 Tilt in the azure lists,  
 And how with Stygian mists  
 Each hornèd hill his giant forehead shrouds ;  
 Jove thundereth in the air,  
 The air, grown great with rain,  
 Now seems to bring Deucalion's days again.  
 I see thee quake ; come, let us home repair,  
 Come hide thee in mine arms,  
 If not for love, yet to shun greater harms.

W. DRUMMOND.

## 332. SAINT JOHN BAPTIST

THE last and greatest Herald of Héaven's King,  
 Girt with rough skins, hies to the deserts wild,  
 Among that savage brood the woods forth bring,  
 Which he than man more harmless found and mild.  
 His food was locusts, and what young doth spring,  
 With honey that from virgin hives distilled ;  
 Parched 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 listened to his voice, obeyed his cry ?  
 Only the echoes, which he made relent,  
 Rung from their flinty caves, Repent ! Repent !

W. DRUMMOND.

## 333. THIS WORLD A HUNTING IS

THIS world a hunting is,  
 The prey poor man, the Nimrod fierce is Death ;  
 His speedy greyhounds are  
 Lust, sickness, envy, care,  
 Strife that ne'er falls amiss,  
 With all those ills which haunt us while we breathe.  
 Now, if by chance we fly  
 Of these the eager chase,  
 Old age with stealing pace  
 Casts up his nets, and there we panting die.

W. DRUMMOND.



334. GEORGE VILLIERS, DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM

A MAN so various, that he seemed to be  
 Not one, but all mankind's epitome ;  
 Stiff in opinions, always in the wrong ;  
 Was everything by starts, and nothing long ;  
 But, in the course of one revolving moon,  
 Was chemist, fiddler, statesman, and buffoon ;  
 Then all for women, painting, rhyming, drinking,  
 Beside ten thousand freaks that died in thinking.  
 Blest madman, who could every hour employ,  
 With something new to wish, or to enjoy !  
 Railing and praising were his usual themes,  
 And both, to show his judgement, in extremes ;  
 So over violent, or over civil,  
 That every man with him was God or Devil.  
 In squandering wealth was his peculiar art ;  
 Nothing went unrewarded but desert.  
 Beggared by fools, whom still he found too late ;  
 He had his jest, and they had his estate.

J. DRYDEN (*Absalom and Achitophel*).

335. DREAMS

DREAMS are but interludes which Fancy makes ;  
 When monarch Reason sleeps, this mimic wakes :  
 Compounds a medley of disjointed things,  
 A mob of cobblers, and a court of kings :  
 Light fumes are merry, grosser fumes are sad :  
 Both are the reasonable soul run mad ;  
 And many monstrous forms in sleep we see,  
 That neither were, nor are, nor e'er can be.  
 Sometimes forgotten things long cast behind  
 Rush forward in the brain, and come to mind.  
 The nurse's legends are for truths received,  
 And the man dreams but what the boy believed.  
 Sometimes we but rehearse a former play,  
 The night restores our actions done by day ;  
 As hounds in sleep will open for their prey.  
 In short, the farce of dreams is of a piece,  
 Chimeras all ; and more absurd, or less.

J. DRYDEN (*The Cock and the Fox*).

336. FAIR, SWEET, AND YOUNG

FAIR, sweet, and young, receive a prize  
 Reserved for your victorious eyes.  
 From crowds whom at your feet you see  
 Oh pity and distinguish me !  
 As I from thousand beauties more  
 Distinguish you ; and only you adore

Your face for conquest was designed;  
 Your every motion charms my mind.  
 Angels, when you your silence break  
 Forget their hymns to hear you speak;  
 But when at once they hear and view  
 Are loath to mount; and long to stay with you.

No graces can your form improve,  
 But all are lost unless you love.  
 While that sweet passion you disdain,  
 Your veil and beauty are in vain.  
 In pity then prevent my fate,  
 For, after dying, all reprieve's too late.

J. DRYDEN.

337. 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 whispered 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 appeared—  
 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.

338. MANKIND

MEN are but children of a larger growth;  
 Our appetites are apt to change as theirs,  
 And full as craving too, and full as vain;  
 And yet the soul, shut up in her dark room,  
 Viewing so clear abroad, at home sees nothing;  
 But, like a mole in earth, busy and blind,  
 Works all her folly up, and casts it outward  
 To the world's open view.

J. DRYDEN (*All for Love*).

## 339. THE HEAVENLY GIFT OF POESY

O GRACIOUS God! how far have we  
 Profaned thy heavenly gift of Poesy!  
 Made prostitute and profligate the Muse,  
 Debased to each obscene and impious use,  
 Whose harmony was first ordained above  
 For tongues of angels, and for hymns of love!  
 Oh wretched we! why were we hurried down  
     This lubric and adulterate age—  
 Nay, added fat pollutions of our own—  
     To increase the steaming ordures of the stage?

J. DRYDEN (*To the Memory of  
 Mrs. Anne Killigrew*).

## 340. ANTHONY ASHLEY COOPER, EARL OF SHAFTESBURY

OF these the false Achitophel was first;  
 A name to all succeeding ages curst:  
 For close designs and crooked counsels fit,  
 Sagacious, bold, and turbulent of wit;  
 Restless, unfixed in principles and place;  
 In power displeas'd, impatient of disgrace;  
 A fiery soul, which, working out its way,  
 Fretted the pigmy body to decay,  
 And o'er-inform'd the tenement of clay:  
 A daring pilot in extremity,  
 Pleas'd with the danger, when the waves went high  
 He sought the storms; but, for a calm unfit,  
 Would steer too nigh the sands to boast his wit.  
 Great wits are sure to madness near allied,  
 And thin partitions do their bounds divide:  
 Else why should he, with wealth and honour blest,  
 Refuse his age the needful hours of rest?  
 Punish a body which he could not please;  
 Bankrupt of life, yet prodigal of ease?

J. DRYDEN (*Absalom and Achitophel*).

## 341. ON MILTON

THREE poets, in three distant ages born,  
 Greece, Italy and England did adorn.  
 The first in loftiness of thought surpass'd;  
 The next in majesty; in both the last.  
 The force of nature could no further go;  
 To make a third, she join'd the former two.

J. DRYDEN.

342. 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 crowned) ;  
 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 touched 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 spheres he rode  
 When he to fair Olympia pressed,  
 And while he sought her snowy breast,  
 Then round her slender waist he curled,  
 And stamped 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 ravished 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 !  
 Flushed 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 checked 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 altered 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 crowned, but Music won the cause.  
 The prince, unable to conceal his pain,  
 Gazed on the fair  
 Who caused his care,

And sighed and looked, sighed and looked,  
Sighed and looked, and sighed again :  
At length, with love and wine at once oppressed  
The vanquished 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 learned 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.

## 343. LIFE A CHEAT

WHEN I consider life, 'tis all a cheat ;  
 Yet, fooled with hope, men favour the deceit ;  
 Trust on, and think to-morrow will repay :  
 To-morrow's falsèr than the former day ;  
 Lies worse ; and while it says, we shall be blessed  
 With some new joys, cuts off what we possessed.  
 Strange cozenage ! none would live past years again,  
 Yet all hope pleasure in what yet remain ;  
 And, from the dregs of life, think to receive  
 What the first sprightly running could not give.  
 I'm tired with waiting for this chemic gold,  
 Which fools us young, and beggars us when old.

J. DRYDEN (*Aureng-Zebe*).

## 344. LOVE HATH A LANGUAGE

LOVE hath a language for all years—  
 Fond hieroglyphs, obscure and old—  
 Wherein the heart reads, writ in tears,  
 The tale which never yet was told.

Love hath his meter too, to trace  
 Those bounds which never yet were given,  
 To measure that which mocks at space,  
 Is deep as death, and high as heaven.

Love hath his treasure hoards, to pay  
 True faith, or goodly service done,—  
 Dear priceless nothings, which outweigh  
 All riches that the sun shines on.

HELEN, LADY DUFFERIN (*To my Son*).

## 345. TIMOR MORTIS CONTURBAT ME

I THAT in heill was and gladness  
 Am trublit now with great sickness  
 And feblit with infirmitie :—  
*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

Our plesance here is all vain glory,  
 This fals world is but transitory,  
 The flesh is bruckle, the Feynd is slce :—  
*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

The state of man does change and vary,  
 Now sound, now sick, now blyth, now sary,  
 Now dansand mirry, now like to die :—  
*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*



He takis the knichtis in to the field  
 Enarmit under helm and scheid ;  
 Victor he is at all mellie :—

*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

That strong unmerciful tyrand  
 Takis, on the motheris breast sowkand,  
 The babe full of benignitie :—

*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

He takis the campion in the stour,  
 The captain closit in the tour,  
 The lady in bour full of bewtie :—

*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

He spairis no lord for his piscence,  
 Na clerk for his intelligence ;  
 His awful straik may no man flee :—

*Timor Mortis conturbat me.*

W. DUNBAR (*The lament for the Makaris  
 quhen he was seik*).

### 346. LONDON

LONDON, thou art of townès *a per se*,  
 Sovereign of cities, seemliest in sight,  
 Of high renown, riches and royalty,  
 Of lords, barons, and many a goodly knight,  
 Of most delectable lusty ladies bright,  
 Of famous prelates in habits clerical,  
 Of merchants full of substance and of might :  
 London, thou art the flower of cities all !

Gem of all joy, jasper of jocundity,  
 Most mighty carbuncle of virtue and valour ;  
 Strong Troy in vigour and in strenuity,  
 Of royal cities rose and geraflour ;  
 Empress of townès, exalt in honour,  
 In beauty bearing the throne imperial,  
 Sweet Paradise, precelling in pleasure :  
 London, thou art the flower of cities all !

W. DUNBAR.

### 347. MY MIND TO ME A KINGDOM IS

My mind to me a kingdom is !  
 Such present joys therein I find  
 That it excels all other bliss  
 That earth affords, or grows by kind.  
 Though much I want which most would have,  
 Yet still my mind forbids to crave.

No princely pomp, no wealthy store,  
 No force to win a victory,  
 No wily wit to salve a sore,  
 No shape to feed a loving eye,  
 To none of these I yield as thrall.  
 For why? My mind doth serve for all.

I see how plenty surfeits oft;  
 And hasty climbers soon do fall.  
 I see that those which are aloft  
 Mishap doth threaten most of all.  
 They get with toil, they keep with fear;  
 Such cares my mind could never bear.

Content to live, this is my stay:  
 I seek no more than may suffice.  
 I press to bear no haughty sway.  
 Look, what I lack my mind supplies.  
 Lo, thus I triumph like a king,  
 Content with that my mind doth bring.

Some have too much, yet still do crave!  
 I little have, and seek no more.  
 They are but poor, though much they have;  
 And I am rich, with little store.  
 They poor, I rich; they beg, I give;  
 They lack, I leave; they pine, I live.

I laugh not at another's loss;  
 I grudge not at another's pain,  
 No worldly waves my mind can toss;  
 My state at one doth still remain.  
 I fear no foe, I fawn no friend;  
 I loathe not life, nor dread my end.

Some weigh their pleasure by their lust,  
 Their wisdom by their rage of will,  
 Their treasure is their only trust,  
 A cloakèd craft their store of skill;  
 But all the pleasure that I find  
 Is to maintain a quiet mind.

My wealth is health and perfect ease,  
 My conscience clear, my choice defence.  
 I neither seek by bribes to please,  
 Nor by deceit to breed offence.  
 Thus do I live: thus will I die.  
 Would all did so, as well as I!

## 348. THE FALLING OUT OF FAITHFUL FRIENDS

IN going to my naked bed, as one that would have slept,  
 I heard a wife sing to her child, that long before had wept.  
 She sighèd sore, and sang full sweet to bring the babe to rest,  
 That would not cease ; but crièd still, in sucking at her breast.  
 She was full weary of her watch, and grievèd with her child ;  
 She rockèd it, and rated it, till that on her it smiled.  
 Then did she say, ' Now have I found this proverb true to prove,  
*The falling out of faithful friends, renewing is of love.*'

Then took I paper, pen, and ink, this proverb for to write,  
 In register for to remain of such a worthy wight.  
 As she proceeded thus in song unto her little brat  
 Much matter uttered she of weight, in place whereas she sat :  
 And provèd plain there was no beast, ne creature bearing life  
 Could well be known to live in love, without discord and strife.  
 Then kissèd she her little babe, and sware, by God above,  
*The falling out of faithful friends, renewing is of love.*

She said that neither king, ne prince, ne lord could live aright,  
 Until their puissance they did prove, their manhood, and their might,  
 When manhood shall be matchèd so, that fear can take no place,  
 Then weary works make warriors each other to embrace,  
 And leave their force that failèd them ; which did consume the rout  
 That might before have lived their time, their strength and nature out.  
 Then did she sing, as one that thought no man could her reprove,  
*The falling out of faithful friends, renewing is of love.*

She said she saw no fish, ne fowl, ne beast within her haunt  
 That met a stranger in their kind, but could give it a taunt.  
 Since flesh might not endure, but rest must wrath succeed,  
 And force the fight to fall to play, in pasture where they feed,  
 So noble Nature can well end the work she hath begun ;  
 And bridle well that will not cease her tragedy in some.  
 Thus in her song she oft rehearsed, as did her well behove,  
*The falling out of faithful friends, renewing is of love.*

' I marvel much, pardy,' quoth she, ' for to behold the rout,  
 To see man, woman, boy, and beast, to toss the world about ;  
 Some kneel, some crouch, some beck, some check, and some can  
 smoothly smile,  
 And some embrace others in arms, and there think many a wile.  
 Some stand aloof at cap and knee, some humble, and some stout,  
 Yet are they never friends in deed, until they once fall out !'  
 Thus ended she her song, and said before she did remove  
*The falling out of faithful friends, renewing is of love.*

R. EDWARDS.

## 349. O MAY I JOIN THE CHOIR INVISIBLE

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.

. . . . .

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.

## 350. ON THE SACRAMENT

HE was the Word that spake it ;  
 He took the bread and brake it ;  
 And what the Word did make it,  
 I do believe and take it.

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

## 351. A LAMENT FOR FLODDEN

I'VE heard them liltin' at our ewe-milking,  
 Lasses a' liltin' before dawn o' day ;  
 But now they are moaning on ilka green loanin'—  
 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 sighin' and sabbin',  
 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 swankies 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 a' wede 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, lie cauld in the clay.

We'll hear nae mair liting at our 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.

JANE ELLIOT.

### 352. A POET'S PRAYER

ALMIGHTY Father! let thy lowly child,  
 Strong in his love of truth, be wisely bold—  
 A patriot bard by sycophants reviled,  
 Let him live usefully, and not die old!  
 Let poor men's children, pleased to read his lays,  
 Love, for his sake, the scenes where he hath been;  
 And, when he ends his pilgrimage of days,  
 Let him be buried where the grass is green;  
 Where daisies, blooming earliest, linger late  
 To hear the bee his busy note prolong,—  
 There let him slumber, and in peace await  
 The dawning morn, far from the sensual throng,  
 Who scorn the wind-flower's blush, the redbreast's lonely song.

E. ELLIOTT.

### 353. THE LAND WHICH NO ONE KNOWS

DARK, deep, and cold the current flows  
 Unto the sea where no wind blows,  
 Seeking the land which no one knows.

O'er its sad gloom still comes and goes  
 The mingled wail of friends and foes,  
 Borne to the land which no one knows.

Why shrieks for help yon wretch, who goes  
 With millions, from a world of woes,  
 Unto the land which no one knows?

Though myriads go with him who goes,  
 Alone he goes where no wind blows,  
 Unto the land which no one knows.

For all must go where no wind blows,  
 And none can go for him who goes;  
 None, none return whence no one knows.

Yet why should he who shrieking goes  
With millions, from a world of woes,  
Reunion seek with it or those ?

Alone with God, where no wind blows,  
And Death, his shadow—doomed, he goes :  
That God is there the shadow shows.

O shoreless Deep, where no wind blows !  
And thou, O Land which no one knows !  
That God is all, His shadow shows.

E. ELLIOTT.

### 354. AMYN TA

My sheep I neglected, I lost my sheep-hook,  
And all the gay haunts of my youth I forsook ;  
No more for Amynta fresh garlands I wove ;  
For ambition, I said, would soon cure my love.

Oh, what had my youth with ambition to do ?  
Why left I Amynta ? Why broke I my vow ?

Oh, give me my sheep, and my sheep-hook restore,  
I'll wander from love and Amynta no more.

Alas ! 'tis too late at my fate to repine ;  
Poor shepherd, Amynta no more can be thine :  
Thy tears are all fruitless, thy wishes are vain,  
The moments neglected return not again.

SIR G. ELLIOTT.

### 355. THE MONUMENT OF CONCORD FIGHT

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
Here once the embattled farmers stood,  
And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept ;  
Alike the conqueror silent sleeps ;  
And Time the ruined bridge has swept  
Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,  
We set to-day a votive stone ;  
That memory may their deed redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit, that made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free,  
Bid Time and Nature gently spare  
The shaft we raise to them and thee.

R. W. EMERSON.

## 356. GIVE ALL TO LOVE

GIVE all to love ;  
 Obey thy heart ;  
 Friends, kindred, days,  
 Estate, good-fame,  
 Plans, credit, and the Muse,—  
 Nothing refuse.

. . . . .  
 Cling with life to the maid ;  
 But when the surprise,  
 First vague shadow of surmise,  
 Flits across her bosom young

Of a joy apart from thee,  
 Free be she, fancy-free ;  
 Nor thou detain her vesture's hem,  
 Nor the palest rose she flung  
 From her summer diadem.

Though thou loved her as thyself,  
 As a self of purer clay,  
 Though her parting dims the day,  
 Stealing grace from all alive ;  
 Heartily know,  
 When half-gods go,  
 The gods arrive.

R. W. EMERSON.

## 357. GOOD-BYE, PROUD WORLD !

GOOD-BYE, proud world ! I'm going home ;  
 Thou art not my friend and I'm not thine.  
 Long through thy weary crowds I roam :  
 A river-ark on the ocean brine,  
 Long I've been tossed like the driven foam  
 But now, proud world ! I'm going home.

. . . . .  
 Oh, when I am safe in my sylvan home,  
 I tread on the pride of Greece and Rome ;  
 And when I am stretched beneath the pines,  
 Where the evening star so holy shines,  
 I laugh at the lore and the pride of man,  
 At the sophist schools, and the learned clan ;  
 For what are they all, in their high conceit,  
 When man in the bush with God may meet ?

R. W. EMERSON.

## 358. FROM 'THE WORLD-SOUL'

HE serveth the servant,  
 The brave he loves amain ;  
 He kills the cripple and the sick,  
 And straight begins again ;  
 For gods delight in gods,  
 And thrust the weak aside ;  
 To him who scorns their charities,  
 Their arms fly open wide.

R. W. EMERSON.

## 359. FROM 'A DIRGE'

HEARKEN to yon pine-warbler  
Singing aloft in the tree !  
Hearest thou, O traveller,  
What he singeth to me ?

Not unless God made sharp thine  
ear  
With sorrow such as mine,  
Out of that delicate lay couldst  
thou  
Its heavy tale divine.

'Go, lonely man,' it saith ;  
'They loved thee from their  
birth ;  
Their hands were pure, and pure  
their faith,—  
There are no such hearts on  
earth.

'Ye cannot unlock your heart,  
The key is gone with them ;  
The silent organ loudest chants  
The master's requiem.'  
R. W. EMERSON.

## 360. 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.

## 361. FROM 'THE PROBLEM'

NOT from a vain or shallow thought  
His awful Jove young Phidias brought ;  
Never from lips of cunning fell  
The thrilling Delphic oracle ;  
Out from the heart of nature rolled  
The burdens of the Bible old ;  
The litanies of nations came,  
Like the volcano's tongue of flame,  
Up from the burning core below,—  
The canticles of love and woe ;  
The hand that rounded Peter's dome,  
And groined the aisles of Christian Rome,  
Wrought in a sad sincerity ;  
Himself from God he could not free ;  
He builded better than he knew ;—  
The conscious stone to beauty grew.

R. W. EMERSON.



## 362. 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.

## 363. FABLE

THE mountain and the squirrel  
 Had a quarrel ;  
 And the former called the latter  
 ' Little Prig '.

Bun replied,  
 ' You are doubtless very big ;  
 But all sorts of things and weather  
 Must be taken in together,  
 To make up a year  
 And a sphere.  
 And I think it no disgrace  
 To occupy my place.

If I'm not so large as you,  
 You are not so small as I,  
 And not half so spry.  
 I'll not deny you make  
 A very pretty squirrel track ;  
 Talents differ : all is well and  
 wisely put ;  
 If I cannot carry forests on my  
 back,  
 Neither can you crack a  
 nut.'

R. W. EMERSON.

## 364. YE HAPPY SWAINS, WHOSE HEARTS ARE FREE

YE happy swains, whose hearts are free  
 From Love's imperial chain,  
 Take warning, and be taught by me,  
 To avoid the enchanting pain.  
 Fatal the wolves to trembling flocks—  
 Fierce winds to blossoms prove—  
 To careless seamen, hidden rocks—  
 To human quiet, love.

Fly the fair sex, if bliss you prize ;  
 The snake's beneath the flower :  
 Who ever gazed on beauteous eyes,  
 That tasted quiet more ?  
 How faithless is the lovers' joy !  
 How constant is their care !  
 The kind with falsehood do destroy,  
 The cruel with despair.

SIR G. ETHEREGE.

## 365. WRITTEN IN A LITTLE LADY'S LITTLE ALBUM

HEARTS good and true Have wishes few In narrow circles bounded, And hope that lives On what God gives Is Christian hope well founded.	Small things are best ; Grief and unrest To rank and wealth are given ; But little things On little wings Bear little souls to heaven.
--	---

F. W. FABER.

## 366. AGED CITIES

I HAVE known cities with the strong-armed Rhine  
 Claspings their mouldered quays in lordly sweep ;  
 And lingered where the Maine's low waters shine  
 Through Tyrian Frankfort ; and been fain to weep  
 'Mid the green cliffs where pale Mosella laves  
 That Roman sepulchre, imperial Treves.  
 Ghent boasts her street, and Bruges her moonlight square ;  
 And holy Mechlin, Rome of Flanders, stands,  
 Like a queen-mother, on her spacious lands ;  
 And Antwerp shoots her glowing spire in air.  
 Yet have I seen no place, by inland brook,  
 Hill-top, or plain, or trim arcaded bowers,  
 That carries age so nobly in its look,  
 As Oxford with the sun upon her towers.

F. W. FABER.

## 367. ENIGMA ON THE LETTER H

'Twas whispered in Heaven, 'twas muttered in Hell,  
 And echo caught softly the sound as it fell ;  
 In the confines of earth 'twas permitted to rest,  
 And the depth of the ocean its presence confessed ;  
 'Twas seen in the lightning, 'twas heard in the thunder,  
 'Twill be found in the spheres when they're riven asunder ;  
 'Twas given to man with his earliest breath,  
 It assists at his birth and attends him in death,  
 Presides o'er his happiness, honour, and health,  
 'Tis the prop of his house and the end of his wealth ;  
 It begins every hope, every wish it must bound,  
 With the husbandman toils, and with monarchs is crowned ;  
 In the heaps of the miser 'tis hoarded with care,  
 But is sure to be lost in the prodigal heir ;  
 Without it the soldier and sailor may roam,  
 But woe to the wretch who expels it from home ;  
 In the whispers of conscience it there will be found,  
 Nor e'er in the whirlwind of passion be drowned ;  
 It softens the heart, and though deaf to the ear,  
 It will make it acutely and instantly hear ;  
 But in shades let it rest, like an elegant flower,  
 Oh ! breathe on it softly, it dies in an hour.

C. M. FANSHAWE.

## 368. IN ANCIENT GREECE

OCCASIONED BY A LADY'S MAKING A COPY OF VERSES

IN ancient Greece, when Sappho sung  
 And touched with matchless art the lyre,  
 Apollo's hand her music strung  
 And all Parnassus formed the quire.

But sweeter notes and softer lays  
 From your diviner numbers spring,  
 Such as himself Apollo plays,  
 Such as the Heavenly Sisters sing.

H. FELTON.

## 369. A HUNTING SONG

THE dusky night rides down the  
 sky,

And ushers in the morn ;  
 The hounds all join in glorious cry,  
 The huntsman winds his horn,  
 And a-hunting we will go.

The wife around her husband  
 throws

Her arms, and begs his stay ;  
 ' My dear, it rains, and hails, and  
 snows,  
 You will not hunt to-day ? '  
 But a-hunting we will go.

' A brushing fox in yonder wood  
 Secure to find we seek :  
 For why ? I carried, sound and  
 good,  
 A cartload there last week,  
 And a-hunting we will go.'

Away he goes, he flies the rout,  
 Their steeds all spur and  
 switch,  
 Some are thrown in, and some  
 thrown out,  
 And some thrown in the ditch ;  
 But a-hunting we will go.

At length his strength to faintness worn,  
 Poor Reynard ceases flight ;  
 Then, hungry, homeward we return,  
 To feast away the night.  
 Then a-drinking we will go.

H. FIELDING.

## 370. IN THE MUSES' PATHS I STRAY

IN the Muses' paths I stray ;  
 Among their groves and by their sacred springs  
 My hand delights to trace unusual things,  
 And deviates from the known and common way :  
 Nor will in fading silks compose  
 Faintly the inimitable rose,  
 Fill up an ill-drawn bird, or paint on glass  
 The Sovereign's blurred and undistinguished face,  
 The threatening angel, and the speaking ass.  
 ANNE FINCH, COUNTESS OF WINCHELSEA (*The Spleen*).

## 371. TO DEATH

O KING of Terrors ! whose unbounded sway  
 All that have life must certainly obey ;  
 The king, the priest, the prophet, all are thine,  
 Nor would even God (in flesh) thy stroke decline.  
 My name is on thy roll, and sure I must  
 Increase thy gloomy kingdom in the dust.  
 My soul at this no apprehension feels,  
 But trembles at thy swords, thy racks, thy wheels,  
 Thy scorching fevers, which distract the sense,  
 And snatch us raving, unprepared from hence ;  
 At thy contagious darts, that wound the heads  
 Of weeping friends who wait at dying beds.—  
 Spare these, and let thy time be when it will ;  
 My office is to die, and thine to kill.  
 Gently thy fatal sceptre on me lay,  
 And take to thy cold arms, insensibly, thy prey.

ANNE FINCH, COUNTESS OF WINCHELSEA.

## 372. TO SILVIA

SILVIA, let us from the crowd retire,  
 For what to you and me  
 (Who but each other do desire)  
 Is all that here we see ?

Apart we'll live, though not alone ;  
 For who *alone* can call  
 Those who in deserts live with one  
 If in that one they've all ?

The world a vast meander is,  
 Where hearts confusedly stray ;  
 Where few do hit, whilst thousands miss,  
 The happy mutual way.

ANNE FINCH, COUNTESS OF WINCHELSEA  
 (*The Cautious Lovers*).

## 373. FROM THE 'RUBAIYÁT OF OMAR KHAYYÁM'

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.

.....  
 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.

.....

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.

Think, in this battered Caravanseraï  
 Whose Doorways are alternate Night and Day,  
 How Sultán after Sultán with his Pomp  
 Abode his Hour or two, and went his way.

They say the Lion and the Lizard keep  
 The Courts where Jamshýd gloried and drank deep;  
 And Bahráh, that great Hunter—the Wild Ass  
 Stamps o'er his Head, and he lies fast asleep.

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.

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!

Ah, my Belovèd, 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 Seven Thousand Years.

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.

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.

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.

With them the Seed of Wisdom did I sow,  
 And with my own hand laboured it to grow:  
 And this was all the Harvest that I reaped—  
 'I came like Water, and like Wind I go.'



And much as Wine has played the Infidel,  
 And robbed me of my Robe of Honour—well,  
 I often wonder what the Vintners buy  
 One half so precious as the Goods they sell.  
 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 !  
 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 ! E. FITZGERALD.

## 374. OH, THE SAD DAY !

OH, the sad day !  
 When friends shall shake their heads, and say  
 Of miserable me :—  
 ' Hark, how he groans !  
 Look how he pants for breath !  
 See how he struggles with the pangs of death !'  
 When they shall say of these dear eyes :—  
 ' How hollow, oh, how dim they be !  
 Mark how his breast doth rise and swell  
 Against his potent enemy !'  
 When some old friend shall step to my bedside,  
 Touch my chill face, and thence shall gently slide,  
 But when his next companions say :—  
 ' How does he do ? What hopes ?' shall turn away,  
 Answering only, with a lift-up hand :—  
 ' Who can his fate withstand ?'  
 Then shall a gasp or two do more  
 Than e'er my rhetoric could before :  
 Persuade the world to trouble me no more—  
 Persuade the world to trouble me no more. T. FLATMAN.

## 375. SONG TO PAN

<p>ALL ye woods and trees and            bowers,        All ye virtues and ye powers        That inhabit in the lakes,        In the pleasant springs or brakes,            Move your feet            To our sound            Whilst we greet            All this ground        With his honour and his name        That defends our flocks from            blame.</p>	<p>He is great, and he is just,        He is ever good, and must        Thus be honoured. Daffadillies,        Roses, pinks, and lovèd lilies,            Let us fling,            Whilst we sing            ' Ever holy,            Ever holy,        Ever honoured, ever young !'        Thus great Pan is ever sung.                            J. FLETCHER        (<i>The Faithful Shepherdess</i>).</p>
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## 376. AWAY, DELIGHTS

AWAY, delights! Go, seek some other dwelling,  
 For I must die.  
 Farewell, false love. Thy tongue is ever telling  
 Lie after lie.  
 For ever let me rest now from thy smarts.  
 Alas, for pity, go,  
 And fire their hearts  
 That have been hard to thee. Mine was not so.  
 Never again deluding love shall know me,  
 For I will die,  
 And all those griefs, that think to overgrow me,  
 Shall be as I.  
 For ever will I sleep, while poor maids cry,  
 'Alas, for pity, stay,  
 And let us die  
 With thee. Men cannot mock us in the clay.'

J. FLETCHER (*The Captain*).

## 377. GOD LYAEUS

God Lyaeus, ever young,  
 Ever honoured, ever sung;  
 Stained with blood of lusty grapes,  
 In a thousand lusty shapes  
 Dance upon the mazer's brim,  
 In the crimson liquor swim;  
 From thy plenteous hand divine  
 Let a river run with wine:  
 God of Youth, let this day here  
 Enter neither care nor fear.

J. FLETCHER (*Valentinian*).

## 378. HEAR YE, LADIES, THAT DESPISE

HEAR ye, ladies, that despise,  
 What the mighty love has  
 done;  
 Fear examples, and be wise:  
 Fair Callisto was a nun;  
 Leda, sailing on the stream  
 To deceive the hopes of man,  
 Love accounting but a dream,  
 Doted on a silver swan;  
 Danaë, in a brazen tower,  
 Where no love was, loved  
 a shower.

Hear, ye ladies that are coy,  
 What the mighty love can do;  
 Fear the fierceness of the boy:  
 The chaste moon he makes to  
 woo;  
 Vesta, kindling holy fires,  
 Circled round about with spies,  
 Never dreaming loose desires,  
 Doting at the altar dies;  
 Ilium, in a short hour, higher  
 He can build, and once more  
 fire.

J. FLETCHER (*Valentinian*).



## 379. HENCE, ALL YOU VAIN DELIGHTS

HENCE, all you vain delights,  
 As short as are the nights  
 Wherein you spend your folly :  
 There's naught in this life sweet,  
 If man were wise to see't,  
 But only melancholy,  
 Oh, sweetest melancholy !  
 Welcome, folded arms, and fixèd  
 eyes,  
 A sigh that piercing mortifies,  
 A look that's fastened to the  
 ground,  
 A tongue chained 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 !  
 Amidnight 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 (*The Nice Valour*).

## 380. MAN HIS OWN STAR

MAN is his own star ; and the soul that can  
 Render an honest and a perfect man  
 Commands all light, all influence, all fate ;  
 Nothing to him falls early, or too late.  
 Our acts our angels are, or good or ill,  
 Our fatal shadows that walk by us still.

J. FLETCHER (*The Honest Man's Fortune*).

## 381. NOW THE LUSTY SPRING IS SEEN

Now the lusty Spring is seen ;  
 Golden yellow, gaudy blue,  
 Daintily invite the view.  
 Everywhere, on every green,  
 Roses blushing as they blow,  
 And enticing men to pull !  
 Lilies whiter than the snow,  
 Woodbines, of sweet honey full :  
 All Love's emblems ! and all cry,  
 'Ladies, if not plucked, we die !'  
 Yet the lusty Spring hath stayed ;  
 Blushing red and purest white  
 Daintily to Love invite  
 Every woman, every maid !  
 Cherries kissing, as they grow ;  
 And inviting men to taste !  
 Apples even ripe below,  
 Winding gently to the waist !  
 All Love's emblems, and all cry,  
 'Ladies, if not plucked, we die !'

J. FLETCHER (*Valentinian*).

## 382. WOMEN'S LONGING

TELL me what is that only thing  
 For which all women long ;  
 Yet having what they most desire,  
 To have it does them wrong ?

'Tis not to be chaste nor fair,  
 (Such gifts malice may impair),  
 Richly trimmed, to walk or ride,  
 Or to wanton unespied,  
 To preserve an honest name  
 And so to give it up to fame—  
 These are toys. In good or ill  
 They desire to have their will :  
 Yet when they have it, they abuse it,  
 For they know not how to use it.

J. FLETCHER (*Women Pleased*).

## 383. THE LIBRARY A GLORIOUS COURT

THAT place, that does contain  
 My books, the best companions, is to me  
 A glorious court, where hourly I converse  
 With the old sages and philosophers.  
 And sometimes, for variety, I confer  
 With kings and emperors, and weigh their counsels ;  
 Calling their victories, if unjustly got,  
 Unto a strict account : and in my fancy,  
 Deface their ill-planned statues. Can I then  
 Part with such constant pleasures, to embrace  
 Uncertain vanities ? No : be it your care  
 To augment your heap of wealth ; it shall be mine  
 To increase in knowledge. Lights there for my study !

J. FLETCHER (*The Elder Brother*).

## 384. DROP, DROP, SLOW TEARS

DROP, drop, slow tears,  
 And bathe those beauteous feet  
 Which brought from Heaven  
 The news and Prince of Peace.  
 Cease not, wet eyes,  
 His mercy to entreat ;

To cry for vengeance  
 Sin doth never cease.  
 In your deep floods  
 Drown all my faults and fears ;  
 Nor let His eye  
 See sin, but through my tears.

P. FLETCHER.

## 385. IMMORTALITY IN BOOKS

SINCE honour from the honourer proceeds,  
 How well do they deserve, that memorize  
 And leave in books for all posterities  
 The names of worthies and their virtuous deeds ;  
 When all their glory else, like water-weeds  
 Without their element, presently dies,  
 And all their greatness quite forgotten lies,  
 And when and how they flourished no man heeds !  
 How poor remembrances are statues, tombs  
 And other monuments that men erect  
 To princes, which remain in closed rooms,  
 Where but a few behold them, in respect  
 Of books, that to the universal eye  
 Show how they lived ; the other where they lie !

J. FLORIO.

## 386. THE BROKEN HEART

OH, no more, no more ; too late  
 Sighs are spent ; the burning  
 tapers  
 Of a life as chaste as fate,  
 Pure as are unwritten papers,  
 Are burnt out ; no heat, no light  
 Now remains ; 'tis ever night.

Love is dead ; let lovers' eyes,  
 Locked in endless dreams,  
 Th' extremes of all extremes,  
 Ope no more, for now Love dies.  
 Now Love dies—implying  
 Love's martyrs must be ever, ever  
 dying. J. FORD

*(The Broken Heart).*

## 387. BLACK-EYED SUSAN

ALL in the Downs the fleet was moored,  
 The streamers waving in the wind,  
 When black-eyed Susan came aboard.  
 'Oh ! 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  
 Rocked with the billow to and fro,  
 Soon as her well-known voice he heard,  
 He sighed, 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 wheresoe'er I go.

' If to far 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 beauteous 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 kissed, she sighed, he hung his head.  
 Her lessening boat unwilling rows to land ;  
 ' Adieu ! ' she cries ; and waved her lily hand.

J. GAY.

### 388. LOVE IN HER EYES SITS PLAYING

LOVE in her eyes sits playing,  
 And sheds delicious death ;  
 Love in her lips is straying,  
 And warbling in her breath ;

Love on her breast sits panting,  
 And swells with soft desire :  
 Nor grace, nor charm, is wanting  
 To set the heart on fire.  
 J. GAY (*Acis and Galatea*).

### 389. O RUDDIER THAN THE CHERRY

O RUDDIER than the cherry !  
 O sweeter than the berry !  
 O nymph more bright  
 Than moonshine night,  
 Like kidlings blithe and merry

Ripe as the melting cluster !  
 No lily has such lustre ;  
 Yet hard to tame  
 As raging flame,  
 And fierce as storms that bluster.  
 J. GAY (*Acis and Galatea*).

## 390. TO HEALTH

How shall I woo thee, sweetest, rose-lipped fair ?  
 When to my eager bosom press thy charms ?  
 No fleecy lambkins ask my evening care ;  
 No morning toils have nerved my youthful arms.

Yet say, O say, bright daughter of the sky,  
 Wilt thou still shun the student's midnight oil ?  
 And, O too partial ! every grace deny  
 To all but yonder sturdy sons of toil ?

Would numbers win thee, thou no lay shouldst need,  
 Whether the Muses' sacred bond resides  
 Among the Dryads on the daisied mead,  
 Where Cam's fair stream, or silver Isis glides.

R. GIFFORD (*Contemplation*).

## 391. LITTLE, YE SISTER-NINE

LITTLE, ye Sister-Nine, they need your aid  
 Whose artless breasts these living scenes inspire.  
 Even from the straw-roofed cot the note of joy  
 Flows full and frequent as the village fair,  
 Whose little wants the busy hours employ,  
 Chanting some rural ditty soothes her care.

Verse sweetens toil, however rude the sound.  
 She feels no biting pang the while she sings ;  
 Nor, as she turns the giddy wheel around,  
 Revolves the sad vicissitude of things.

R. GIFFORD (*Contemplation*).

## 392. THE EXILE'S SONG

OH, why left I my hame ?  
 Why did I cross the deep ?  
 Oh, why left I the land  
 Where my forefathers sleep ?  
 I sigh for Scotia's shore,  
 And I gaze across the sea,  
 But I canna get a blink  
 O' my ain countrie !

The palm-tree waveth high,  
 And fair the myrtle springs ;  
 And, to the Indian maid  
 The hulbul sweetly sings ;  
 But I dinna see the broom  
 Wi' its tassels on the lea,  
 Nor hear the lintie's sang  
 O' my ain countrie !

Oh, here no Sabbath bell  
 Awakes the Sabbath morn,  
 Nor song of reapers heard  
 Amang the yellow corn :  
 For the tyrant's voice is here,  
 And the wail of slaverie ;  
 But the sun of freedom shines  
 In my ain countrie !

There's a hope for every woe,  
 And a balm for every pain,  
 But the first joys o' our heart  
 Come never back again.  
 There's a track upon the deep,  
 And a path across the sea ;  
 But the weary ne'er return  
 To their ain countrie !

R. GILFILLAN.

## 393. THE VILLAGE PREACHER

A MAN he was to all the country dear,  
 And passing rich with forty pounds a year ;  
 Remote from towns he ran his godly race,  
 Nor e'er had changed, nor wished to change his place ;  
 Unpractised he to fawn, or seek for power,  
 By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour ;  
 Far other aims his heart had learned to prize,  
 More skilled to raise the wretched than to rise.  
 His house was known to all the vagrant train,  
 He chid their wanderings, but relieved their pain ;  
 The long-remembered beggar was his guest,  
 Whose beard descending swept his aged breast ;  
 The ruined spendthrift, now no longer proud,  
 Claimed kindred there, and had his claims allowed ;  
 The broken soldier, kindly bade to stay,  
 Sat by his fire, and talked the night away ;  
 Wept o'er his wounds, or tales of sorrow done,  
 Shouldered his crutch, and showed how fields were won.  
 Pleased with his guests, the good man learned to glow,  
 And quite forgot their vices in their woe ;  
 Careless their merits or their faults to scan,  
 His pity gave ere charity began.

O. GOLDSMITH (*The Deserted Village*).

## 394. AN ELEGY

## ON THE DEATH OF A MAD DOG

GOOD people all, of every sort,  
 Give ear unto my song ;  
 And if you find it wondrous short  
 It cannot hold you long.

In Islington there was a man,  
 Of whom the world might say  
 That still a godly race he ran,  
 Whene'er he went to pray.

A kind and gentle heart he had,  
 To comfort friends and foes ;  
 The naked every day he clad,  
 When he put on his clothes.

And in that town a dog was found,  
 As many dogs there be,  
 Both mongrel, puppy, whelp, and  
 hound,  
 And curs of low degree.

This dog and man at first were  
 friends ;

But when a pique began,  
 The dog, to gain some private ends,  
 Went mad and bit the man.

Around from all the neighbouring  
 streets

The wondering neighbours ran,  
 And swore the dog had lost his  
 wits,

To bite so good a man.

The wound it seemed both sore  
 and sad

To every Christian eye ;  
 And while they swore the dog was  
 mad,

They swore the man would die.

But soon a wonder came to light,  
That showed the rogues they lied :  
The man recovered of the bite,  
The dog it was that died.

O. GOLDSMITH.

395. DAVID GARRICK

HERE lies David Garrick, describe me, who can,  
An abridgement of all that was pleasant in man ;  
As an actor, confessed without rival to shine :  
As a wit, if not first, in the very first line :  
Yet, with talents like these, and an excellent heart,  
The man had his failings, a dupe to his art.  
Like an ill-judging beauty, his colours he spread,  
And beplastered with rouge his own natural red.  
On the stage he was natural, simple, affecting ;  
'Twas only that when he was off he was acting.

O. GOLDSMITH (*Retaliation*).

396. EDMUND BURKE

HERE lies our good Edmund, whose genius was such,  
We scarcely can praise it, or blame it too much ;  
Who, born for the Universe, narrowed his mind,  
And to party gave up what was meant for mankind.  
Though fraught with all learning, yet straining his throat  
To persuade Tommy Townshend to lend him a vote ;  
Who, too deep for his hearers, still went on refining,  
And thought of convincing, while they thought of dining ;  
Though equal to all things, for all things unfit,  
Too nice for a statesman, too proud for a wit ;  
For a patriot, too cool ; for a drudge, disobedient ;  
And too fond of the *right* to pursue the *expedient*.

O. GOLDSMITH (*Retaliation*).

397. SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS

HERE Reynolds is laid, and, to tell you my mind,  
He has not left a better or wiser behind :  
His pencil was striking, resistless, and grand ;  
His manners were gentle, complying, and bland  
Still born to improve us in every part,  
His pencil our faces, his manners our heart :  
To coxcombs averse, yet most civilly steering,  
When they judged without skill he was still hard of hearing :  
When they talked of their Raphaels, Correggios, and stuff,  
He shifted his trumpet, and only took snuff.

O. GOLDSMITH (*Retaliation*).

## 398. MAN WANTS BUT LITTLE

No flocks that range the valley free  
 "To slaughter I condemn ;  
 Taught by that Power that pities me,  
 I learn to pity them.

But from the mountain's grassy side,  
 A guiltless feast I bring ;  
 A scrip with herbs and fruits supplied,  
 And water from the spring.

Then, pilgrim, turn, thy cares forgo ;  
 All earth-born cares are wrong :  
 Man wants but little here below,  
 Nor wants that little long.

O. GOLDSMITH (*Edwin and Angelina*).

## 399. FROM 'THE TRAVELLER'

REMOTE, unfriended, melancholy, slow,  
 Or by the lazy Scheldt, or wandering Po,  
 Or onward, where the rude Carinthian boor  
 Against the houseless stranger shuts the door ;  
 Or where Campania's plain forsaken lies,  
 A weary waste expanding to the skies :  
 Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,  
 My heart untravelled fondly turns to thee ;  
 Still to my brother turns with ceaseless pain,  
 And drags at each remove a lengthening chain.

Eternal blessings crown my earliest friend,  
 And round his dwelling guardian saints attend :  
 Blest be that spot, where cheerful guests retire  
 To pause from toil, and trim their evening fire ;  
 Blest that abode, where want and pain repair,  
 And every stranger finds a ready chair ;  
 Blest be those feasts with simple plenty crowned,  
 Where all the ruddy family around  
 Laugh at the jests or pranks that never fail,  
 Or sigh with pity at some mournful tale,  
 Or press the bashful stranger to his food,  
 And learn the luxury of doing good.

O. GOLDSMITH.

## 400. SWEET AUBURN

SWEET Auburn ! loveliest village of the plain,  
 Where health and plenty cheered the labouring swain,  
 Where smiling spring its earliest visit paid,  
 And parting summer's lingering blooms delayed :  
 Dear lovely bowers of innocence and ease,  
 Seats of my youth, when every sport could please.

. . . . .



Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,  
 Where wealth accumulates, and men decay :  
 Princes and lords may flourish, or may fade  
 A breath can make them, as a breath has made ;  
 But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,  
 When once destroyed, can never be supplied.

. . . . .  
 In all my wanderings round this world of care,  
 In all my griefs—and God has given my share—  
 I still had hopes my latest hours to crown,  
 Amidst these humble bowers to lay me down;  
 To husband out life's taper at the close,  
 And keep the flame from wasting by repose.  
 I still had hopes, for pride attends us still,  
 Amidst the swains to show my book-learned skill,  
 Around my fire an evening group to draw,  
 And tell of all I felt, and all I saw ;  
 And, as a hare, whom hounds and horns pursue,  
 Pants to the place from whence at first she flew,  
 I still had hopes, my long vexations passed,  
 Here to return—and die at home at last.

O. GOLDSMITH (*The Deserted Village*).

#### 401. THE SCHOOLMASTER

THERE, in his noisy mansion, skilled to rule,  
 The village master taught his little school ;  
 A man severe he was, and stern to view ;  
 I knew him well, and every truant knew ;  
 Well had the boding tremblers learned to trace  
 The day's disasters in his morning face ;  
 Full well they laughed, with counterfeited glee,  
 At all his jokes, for many a joke had he ;  
 Full well the busy whisper, circling round,  
 Conveyed the dismal tidings when he frowned ;  
 Yet he was kind ; or if severe in aught,  
 The love he bore to learning was in fault ;  
 The village all declared how much he knew ;  
 'Twas certain he could write, and cypher too ;  
 Lands he could measure, terms and tides presage,  
 And e'en the story ran that he could gauge.  
 In arguing too, the parson owned his skill,  
 For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still ;  
 While words of learned length and thundering sound  
 Amazed the gazing rustics ranged around,  
 And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,  
 That one small head could carry all he knew.

O. GOLDSMITH (*The Deserted Village*).

## 402. HOPE

To the last moment of his breath  
 On hope the wretch relies ;  
 And e'en the pang preceding death  
 Bids expectation rise.

Hope, like the gleaming taper's light,  
 Adorns and cheers our way ;  
 And still, as darker grows the night,  
 Emits a brighter ray.

O. GOLDSMITH (*The Captivity*).

## 403. WHEN LOVELY WOMAN STOOPS TO FOLLY

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 (*The Vicar of Wakefield*).

## 404. OF MONEY

GIVE money me ; take friendship whoso list !  
 For friends are gone, come once adversity ;  
 When money yet remaineth safe in chest,  
 That quickly can thee bring from misery.  
 Fair face show friends, when riches do abound ;  
 Come time of proof, ' Farewell, they must away !'  
 Believe me well, they are not to be found,  
 If God but send thee once a lowering day.  
 Gold never starts aside ; but, in distress,  
 Finds ways enough to ease thy heaviness.

B. GOOGE.

## 405. MY DEAR AND ONLY LOVE, I PRAY

My dear and only love, I pray  
 This noble world of thee  
 Be governed by no other sway  
 But purest monarchy ;  
 For if confusion have a part,  
 (Which virtuous souls abhor),  
 And hold a Synod in thy heart,  
 I'll never love thee more.

Like Alexander I will reign,  
 And I will reign alone ;  
 My thoughts did evermore disdain  
 A rival on my throne.  
 He either fears his fate too much,  
 Or his deserts are small,  
 That puts it not unto the touch  
 To win, or lose, it all.

But I must rule and govern still  
And always give the law,  
And have each subject at my will  
And all to stand in awe.

But 'gainst my battery, if I find  
Thou shunn'st the prize so sore  
As that thou sett'st me up a  
blind,

I'll never love thee more !

Or in the empire of thy heart,  
Where I should solely be,  
Another do pretend a part  
And dares to vie with me,

Or if Committees thou erect,  
And go on such a score,  
I'll sing and laugh at thy neglect,  
And never love thee more.

But if thou wilt be constant then,  
And faithful of thy word ;  
I'll make thee glorious by my pen  
And famous by my sword,  
I'll serve thee in such noble ways  
Were never heard before !

I'll crown and deck thee all with  
bays,  
And love thee evermore.

J. GRAHAM, MARQUIS OF MONTROSE.

#### 406. IF DOUGHTY DEEDS MY LADY PLEASE

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 meed.

I'll wear thy colours in my cap,  
Thy picture in my heart ;  
And he that hends 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, nae 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 thysell,  
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 !

O 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.

R. GRAHAM (afterwards Cunninghame-Graham).

#### 407. FROM THE '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 adamantine 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, designed,  
 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 learned to melt at others' woe.

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.

#### 408. FROM 'THE PROGRESS OF POESY'

##### A PINDARIC ODE

FAR from the sun and summer-gale,  
 In thy green lap was Nature's darling laid,  
 What time, where lucid Avon strayed,  
 To Him the mighty mother did unveil  
 Her awful face: the dauntless Child  
 Stretched forth his little arms, and smiled.  
 This pencil take (she said), whose colours clear  
 Ricbly 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 passed 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—  
 Oh ! lyre divine, what daring Spirit  
 Wakes thee now ? though he inherit  
 Nor the pride, nor ample pinion,  
 That the Theban Eagle bear  
 Sailing with supreme dominion  
 Through 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, unborrowed 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.

## 409. ODE TO THE SPRING

Lo ! where the rosy-bosomed 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 through the clear blue sky  
 Their gathered 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 through the peopled air  
 The busy murmur glows :  
 The insect youth are 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 through life's little day,  
 In fortune's varying colours dressed :  
 Brushed by the hand of rough Mischance,  
 Or chilled 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.

## 410. OPENING PARADISE

SEE the wretch that long has tossed  
 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 (*Vicissitude*).

## 411. ELEGY WRITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD

THE Curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
 The lowing herd wind 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 bowed 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,  
 Awaits alike the 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 swayed,  
 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 repressed their noble rage,  
 And froze the genial current of the soul.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene  
 The dark unfathomed 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.

The applause of listening 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 learned to stray ;  
Along the cool sequestered vale of life  
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

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

Their name, their years, spelt by the unlettered 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 resigned,  
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 the unhonoured 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, woeful-wan, like one forlorn,  
Or crazed with care, or crossed in hopeless love.

'One morn I missed 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 frowned not on his humble birth,  
And Melancholy marked 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 gained from Heaven ('twas all he wished) 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.

412. ODE ON THE DEATH OF 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 purred 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  
Betrayed a golden gleam.

The hapless Nymph with wonder saw :

A whisker first and then a claw

With many an ardent wish

She stretched 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 stretched, 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 mewed to every watery God

Some speedy aid to send.

No Dolphin came, no Nereid stirred :

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 .

Nor all that glisters gold.

T. GRAY.

413. FROM THE ' 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 the 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  
strayed,

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.

. . . . .

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.

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 murtherous  
band!

Ah, tell them, they are men!

To each his sufferings: all are  
men,

Condemned alike to groan,  
The tender for another's pain;  
The 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 para-  
dise.

No more; where ignorance is  
bliss,

'Tis folly to be wise.

T. GRAY.

#### 414. FAWNIA

AH! were she pitiful as she is fair,

Or but as mild as she is seeming so,  
Then were my hopes greater than my despair;  
Then all the world were heaven, nothing woe.

Ah! were her heart relenting as her hand,  
That seems to melt e'en with the mildest touch,  
Then knew I where to seat me in a land

Under the wide heavens, but yet not such:  
Just as she shows, so seems the budding rose,

Yet sweeter far than is an earthly flower;  
Sovereign of Beauty! like the spray she grows,

Compass'd she is with thorns and canker'd bower:  
Yet were she willing to be plucked and worn,  
She would be gathered, though she grew on thorn.

Ah! when she sings, all music else be still,

For none must be comparèd to her note;  
Ne'er breathed such glee from Philomela's bill;  
Nor from the Morning-Singer's swelling throat.

Ah! when she riseth from her blissful bed,  
She comforts all the world, as doth the sun;  
And at her sight the night's foul vapour's fled;

When she is set, the gladsome day is done:  
O glorious Sun! imagine me the west,  
Shine in my arms, and set thou in my breast!

R. GREENE (*Pandosto*).

## 415. THE SHEPHERD'S WIFE'S SONG

AH what is love ? It is a pretty thing,  
As sweet unto a shepherd as a king,

And sweeter too :

For kings have cares that wait upon a crown,  
And cares can make the sweetest love to frown :

Ah then, ah then,

If country loves such sweet desires do gain,  
What lady would not love a shepherd swain ?

• His flocks are folded, he comes home at night,  
As merry as a king in his delight,

And merrier too :

For kings bethink them what the State require,  
Where shepherds careless carol by the fire.

Ah then, ah then,

If country loves such sweet desires gain,  
What lady would not love a shepherd swain ?

He kisseth first, then sits as blithe to eat  
His cream and curds, as doth the king his meat,

And blither too :

For kings have often fears when they do sup,  
Where shepherds dread no poison in their cup.

Ah then, ah then,

If country loves such sweet desires gain  
What lady would not love a shepherd swain ?

R. GREENE (*Greene's Mourning Garment*).

## 416. SAMELA

LIKE to Diana in her summer weed,  
Girt with a crimson robe of brightest dye,  
goes fair Samela.

Whiter than be the flocks that straggling feed,  
When washed by Arethusa's Fount they lie,  
is fair Samela.

As fair Aurora in her morning grey,  
Decked with the ruddy glister of her love,  
is fair Samela.

Like lovely Thetis on a calmèd day,  
When as her brightness Neptune's fancy move,  
shines fair Samela.

Her tresses gold, her eyes like glassy streams,  
Her teeth are pearl, the breasts are ivory  
of fair Samela.

Her cheeks like rose and lily yield forth gleams  
Her brows bright arches framed of ebony :  
thus fair Samela



## 419. SEPHESTIA'S SONG TO HER CHILD

WEEP not, my wanton, smile upon  
my knee,

When thou art old there's grief  
enough for thee.

Mother's wag, pretty boy,

Father's sorrow, father's joy.

When thy father first did see

Such a boy by him and me,

He was glad, I was woe,

Fortune changèd made him so,

When he left his pretty boy,

Last his sorrow, first his joy.

. . . . .

The wanton smiled, father wept,

Mother cried, baby leapt :

More he crowed, more we cried ;

Nature could not sorrow hide.

He must go, he must kiss

Child and mother, baby bliss :

For he left his pretty boy,

Father's sorrow, father's joy.

Weep not, my wanton, smile upon  
my knee,

When thou art old there's grief  
enough for thee.

R. GREENE (*Menaphon*).

## 420. WHAT THING IS LOVE ?

WHAT thing is love ? It is a power divine

That reigns in us ; or else a wreakful law

That dooms our minds to beauty to incline :

It is a star whose influence doth draw

Our hearts to love, dissembling of his might,

Till he be master of our hearts and sight.

. . . . .

'Tis now a peace, and then a sudden war,

A hope consumed before it is conceived ;

At hand it fears, and menaceth afar ;

And he that gains is most of all deceived :

It is a secret hidden and not known

Which one may better feel than write upon.

R. GREENE (*Menaphon*).

## 421. ARBASTO'S SONG

WHEREAT erewhile I wept, I laugh ;

That which I feared, I now despise ;

My victor once, my vassal is ;

My foe constrained, my weal supplies :

Thus do I triumph on my foe,

I weep at weal, I laugh at woe.

My care is cured, yet hath none end ;

Not that I want, but that I have ;

My chance was change, yet still I stay,

I would have less, and yet I crave :

Ay me, poor wretch ! that thus do live,

Constrained to take, yet forced to give.

She whose delights are signs of death,  
 Who when she smiles, begins to lower,  
 Constant in this that still she change,  
 Her sweetest gifts time proves but sour :  
 I live in care, crossed with her guile,  
 Through her I weep, at her I smile !

R. GREENE (*Arbasto*).

422. UPON CASTARA'S DEPARTURE

Vows are vain. No suppliant  
 breath  
 Stays the speed of swift-heeled  
 Death.

Life with her is gone, and I  
 Learn but a new way to die.  
 See the flowers condole, and all  
 Wither in my funeral.  
 The bright lily, as if day  
 Parted with her, fades away.

Violets hang their heads and lose  
 All their beauty. That the rose  
 A sad part in sorrow bears,  
 Witness all those dewy tears,  
 Which, as pearl or diamond like,  
 Swell upon her blushing cheek.  
 All things mourn, but oh, behold  
 How the withered marigold  
 Closeth up, now she is gone,  
 Judging her the setting sun.

W. HABINGTON.

423. WHEN I SURVEY THE BRIGHT CELESTIAL SPHERE

WHEN I survey the bright  
 Celestial sphere ;  
 So rich with jewels hung, that  
 Night  
 Doth like an Ethiop bride  
 appear :  
 My soul her wings doth spread  
 And heavenward flies,  
 The Almighty's mysteries to read  
 In the large volumes of the skies.

For the bright firmament  
 Shoots forth no flame  
 So silent, but is eloquent  
 In speaking the Creator's name.

No unregarded star  
 Contracts its light  
 Into so small a character,  
 Removed far from our human  
 sight,

But if we steadfast look  
 We shall discern  
 In it, as in some holy book,  
 How man may heavenly knowledge learn.

W. HABINGTON.

424. TO ROSES, IN THE BOSOM OF CASTARA

YE blushing Virgins happy are  
 In the chaste nunnery of her breasts,  
 For he'd profane so chaste a fair,  
 Whoe'er should call them Cupid's nests.  
 Transplanted thus, how bright ye grow,  
 How rich a perfume do ye yield !  
 In some close garden, cowslips so  
 Are sweeter than i' th' open field.

In those white cloisters, live secure  
 From the rude blasts of wanton breath,  
 Each hour more innocent and pure,  
 Till you shall wither into death.

Then that which, living, gave you room,  
 Your glorious sepulchre shall be.  
 There wants no marble for a tomb,  
 Whose breast hath marble been to me.

W. HABINGTON.

#### 425. TO MY MOTHER

WHEN barren doubt, like a late coming snow,  
 Made an unkind December of my spring,  
 That all the pretty flowers did droop for woe,  
 And the sweet birds their love no more would sing;  
 Then the remembrance of thy gentle faith,  
 Mother beloved, would steal upon my heart;  
 Fond feeling saved me from the utter scathe,  
 And from the hope I could not live apart.  
 Now that my mind has passed from wintry gloom,  
 And on the calmèd waters once again  
 Ascendant Faith circles with silver plume,  
 That casts a charmèd shade, not now in pain,  
 Thou child of Christ,—in joy I think of thee,  
 And mingle prayers for what we both may be.

A. H. HALLAM.

#### 426. AGAINST WRITERS THAT CARP AT OTHER MEN'S BOOKS

THE readers and the hearers like my books,  
 And yet some writers cannot them digest;  
 But what care I? for when I make a feast,  
 I would my guests should praise it, not the cooks.

SIR J. HARINGTON.

#### 427. OF TREASON

TREASON doth never prosper: what's the reason?  
 For if it prosper, none dare call it treason.

SIR J. HARINGTON.



## 428. AND SHALL TRELAWNY DIE ?

A GOOD sword and a trusty hand !  
 A merry heart and true !  
 King James's men shall under-  
 stand  
 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.

## 429. A BOW-MEETING SONG

'Twas merry then in England  
 (Our ancient records tell),  
 With Robin Hood and Little  
 John  
 Who dwelt by down and dell ;  
 And yet we love the bold outlaw  
 Who braved a tyrant foe,  
 Whose cheer was the deer,  
 And his only friend the bow !

'Twas merry then in England  
 In autumn's dewy morn,  
 When echo started from her hill  
 To hear the bugle-horn.  
 And beauty, mirth, and warrior  
 worth  
 In garb of green did go  
 The shade to invade  
 With the arrow and the bow.  
 R. HEBER.

## 430. TO A WELSH AIR

WHY that neck of marble whiteness,  
 Why that hair of sunny brightness,  
 Form of perfect mould,  
 Why those fringed eyelids screening  
 Lights of love and liquid meaning,  
 While the heart is cold ?

Shame on her whose pride or malice  
 With a lover's anguish dallies !  
 Scorn our scattered reason rallies,  
 Thou shalt mourn thy tyrant sallies,  
 Ere that thou art old—young Alice,  
 Ere that thou art old !

R. HEBER.

## 431. A DIRGE

CALM on the bosom of thy God,  
 Young spirit, rest thee now!  
 Even while with us thy footstep trod,  
 His seal was on thy brow.

Dust, to its narrow house beneath!  
 Soul, to its place on high!—  
 They that have seen thy look in death  
 No more may fear to die.

Lone are the paths and sad the bowers  
 Whence thy meek smile is gone;  
 But oh!—a brighter home than ours  
 In heaven is now thine own.

F. HEMANS.

## 432. THE BETTER LAND

'I HEAR thee speak of the better land,  
 Thou callest its children a happy band:  
 Mother! oh, where is that radiant shore?  
 Shall we not seek it, and weep no more?  
 Is it where the flower of the orange blows,  
 And the fire-flies glance through the myrtle boughs?'—  
 'Not there, not there, my child!'

'Is it where the feathery palm-trees rise,  
 And the date grows ripe under sunny skies?  
 Or midst the green islands of glittering seas,  
 Where fragrant forests perfume the breeze,  
 And strange, bright birds, on their starry wings,  
 Bear the rich hues of all glorious things?'—  
 'Not there, not there, my child!'

'Is it far away, in some region old,  
 Where the rivers wander o'er sands of gold?—  
 Where the burning rays of the ruby shine,  
 And the diamond lights up the secret mine,  
 And the pearl gleams forth from the coral strand?—  
 Is it there, sweet mother, that better land?'—  
 'Not there, not there, my child!'

'Eye hath not seen it, my gentle boy!  
 Ear hath not heard its deep songs of joy;  
 Dreams cannot picture a world so fair,  
 Sorrow and death may not enter there;  
 Time doth not breathe on its fadeless bloom,  
 For beyond the clouds, and beyond the tomb,—  
 It is there, it is there, my child!'

F. HEMANS.

## 433. ENGLAND'S DEAD

SON of the ocean isle !  
 Where sleep your mighty dead?  
 Show me what high and stately  
 pile  
 Is reared o'er Glory's bed.

Go, stranger ! track the deep,  
 Free, free, the white sail spread !  
 Wave may not foam, nor wild  
 wind sweep,  
 Where rest not England's dead.

On Egypt's burning plains,  
 By the pyramid o'erswayed,  
 With fearful power the noonday  
 reigns,  
 And the palm-trees yield no  
 shade.

But let the angry sun  
 From heaven look fiercely red,  
 Unfelt by those whose task is  
 done !—  
*There slumber England's dead.*

The hurricane hath might  
 Along the Indian shore,  
 And far by Ganges' banks at  
 night  
 Is heard the tiger's roar.

But let the sound roll on !  
 It hath no tone of dread  
 For those that from their toils  
 are gone ;—  
*There slumber England's dead !*

Loud rush the torrent-floods  
 The western wilds among,  
 And free in green Columbia's  
 woods  
 The hunter's bow is strung.

But let the floods rush on !  
 Let the arrow's flight be sped !  
 Why should *they* reck whose task  
 is done ?—  
*There slumber England's dead !*

The mountain-storms rise high  
 In the snowy Pyrenees,  
 And toss the pine-boughs through  
 the sky  
 Like rose-leaves on the breeze.

But let the storm rage on !  
 Let the forest-wreaths be shed :  
 For the Roncesvalles' field is  
 won,—  
*There slumber England's dead.*

On the frozen deep's repose,  
 'Tis a dark and dreadful hour,  
 When round the ship the ice-fields  
 close,  
 To chain her with their power.

But let the ice drift on !  
 Let the cold-blue desert spread !  
*Their* course with mast and flag  
 is done,—  
 Even there sleep England's  
 dead.

The warlike of the isles,  
 The men of field and wave !  
 Are not the rocks their funeral  
 piles,  
 The seas and shores their grave?

Go, stranger ! track the deep,  
 Free, free, the white sail spread !  
 Wave may not foam, nor wild  
 wind sweep,  
 Where rest not England's dead.

F. HEMANS.

## 434. CASABIANCA

In the battle of the Nile the *Orient* took fire, and her guns were abandoned, except by the Admiral's son, Casabianca. This boy, about thirteen years of age, remained at his post until the flames reached the powder, and perished in the explosion which resulted.

THE boy stood on the burning  
deck

Whence all but he had fled ;  
The flame that lit the battle's  
wreck

Shone round him o'er the dead.

Yet beautiful and bright he stood,  
As born to rule the storm—  
A creature of heroic blood,  
A proud, though childlike form.

The flames rolled on—he would  
not go

Without his father's word ;  
That father, faint in death below,  
His voice no longer heard.

He called aloud :—' Say, father,  
say,

If yet my task is done !'  
He knew not that the chieftain  
lay  
Unconscious of his son.

' Speak, father !' once again he  
cried,

' If I may yet be gone !'  
And but the booming shots replied,  
And fast the flames rolled on.

Upon his brow he felt their breath,  
And in his waving hair,  
And looked from that lone post of  
death,

In still yet brave despair :  
And shouted but once more aloud,  
' My father ! must I stay ?'  
While o'er him fast, through sail  
and shroud,

The wreathing fires made way ;  
They wrapt the ship in splendour  
wild,

They caught the flag on high,  
And streamed above the gallant  
child,

Like banners in the sky.

There came a burst of thunder-  
sound—

The boy—oh, where was he ?  
Ask of the winds that far around  
With fragments strewed the  
sea !—

With mast and helm, and pennon  
fair,

That well had borne their part—  
But the noblest thing that perished  
there

Was that young faithful heart.  
F. HEMANS.

## 435. FROM 'THE MUFFLED DRUM'

THE muffled drum was heard  
In the Pyrenees by night,  
With a dull, deep rolling sound,  
Which told the hamlets round  
Of a soldier's burial-rite.

But it told them not how dear,  
In a home beyond the main,  
Was the warrior-youth laid low  
that hour

By a mountain-stream of Spain.

The oaks of England waved  
O'er the slumber of his race,  
But a pine of the Ronceval made moan  
Above *his* last, lone place.

F. HEMANS.

## 436. OUT OF THE NIGHT

<p>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.</p> <p>In the fell clutch of circumstance I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance My head is bloody, but unbowed.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>W. E. HENLEY (<i>To R. T. H. B.</i>).</p>
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## 437. ENGLAND, MY ENGLAND

WHAT have I done for you,  
England, my England?  
What is there I would not do,  
England, my own?  
With your glorious eyes austere,  
As the Lord were walking near,  
Whispering terrible things and dear  
As the Song on your bugles blown,  
England—  
Round the world on your bugles blown!

Where shall the watchful sun,  
England, my England,  
Match the master-work you've done,  
England, my own?  
When shall he rejoice agen  
Such a breed of mighty men  
As come forward, one to ten,  
To the Song on your bugles blown,  
England—  
Down the years on your bugles blown?

Ever the faith endures,  
England, my England:—  
'Take and break us: we are yours,  
England, my own!  
Life is good, and joy runs high  
Between English earth and sky:  
Death is death; but we shall die  
To the Song on your bugles blown,  
England—  
To the stars on your bugles blown!

They call you proud and hard,  
 England, my England:  
 You with worlds to watch and ward,  
 England, my own!  
 You whose mailed hand keeps the keys  
 Of such teeming destinies,  
 You could know nor dread nor ease  
 Were the Song on your bugles blown,  
 England,  
 Round the Pit on your bugles blown!

Mother of Ships whose might,  
 England, my England,  
 Is the fierce old Sea's delight,  
 England, my own,  
 Chosen daughter of the Lord,  
 Spouse-in-Chief of the ancient Sword,  
 There's the menace of the Word  
 In the Song on your bugles blown,  
 England—  
 Out of heaven on your bugles blown!

W. E. HENLEY.

438. NOW THAT THE APRIL OF YOUR YOUTH

Now that the April of your youth adorns  
 The garden of your face,  
 Now that for you each knowing lover mourns,  
 And all seek to your grace,  
 Do not repay affection with scorns.

What though you may a matchless beauty vaunt,  
 And all that hearts can move  
 By such a power, that seemeth to enchant;  
 Yet, without help of love,  
 Beauty no pleasure to itself can grant.

Then think each minute that you lose a day;  
 The longest youth is short,  
 The shortest age is long; Time flies away  
 And makes us but his sport,  
 And that which is not Youth's, is Age's prey.

LORD HERBERT OF CHERBURY.

439. EASTER

I GOT me flowers to straw Thy way,  
 I got me boughs off many a tree;  
 But Thou wast up by break of day,  
 And brought'st Thy sweets along with Thee.

The sun arising in the East,  
 Though he give light, and the East perfume,  
 If they should offer to contest  
 With Thy arising, they presume.

Can there be any day but this,  
 Though many suns to shine endeavour ?  
 We count three hundred, but we miss :  
 There is but one, and that one ever.

G. HERBERT.

#### 440. JUDGE NOT THE PREACHER

JUDGE not the preacher, for He is thy judge ;  
 If thou mistake him, thou conceiv'st Him not :  
 God calleth preaching folly : do not grudge  
 To pick out treasures from an earthen pot :  
 The worst speak something good ; if all want sense,  
 God takes a text, and preacheth patience.

G. HERBERT (*The Church Porch*).

#### 441. SIN

LORD, with what care hast Thou begirt us round !  
 Parents first season us ; then schoolmasters  
 Deliver us to laws ; they send us, bound  
 To rules of reason, holy messengers,  
 Pulpits and Sundays, sorrow dogging sin,  
 Afflictions sorted, anguish of all sizes,  
 Fine nets and stratagems to catch us in,  
 Bibles laid open, millions of surprises ;  
 Blessings beforehand, ties of gratefulness,  
 The sound of glory ringing in our ears :  
 Without, our shame ; within, our consciences ;  
 Angels and grace, eternal hopes and fears !  
 Yet all these fences and their whole array  
 One cunning bosom-sin blows quite away.

G. HERBERT.

#### 442. THE QUIDDITY

<p>My God, a verse is not a crown,          No point of honour, or gay suit,          No hawk, or banquet, or renown,          Nor a good sword, nor yet a lute.</p>	<p>It cannot vault or dance or play,          It never was in France or Spain,          Nor can it entertain the day          With a great stable or demain.</p>
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It is no office, art, or news,  
 Nor the Exchange, or busy hall :  
 But it is that which, while I use,  
 I am with Thee : and ' Most take all '.

G. HERBERT.

## 443. SUNDAY

O DAY most calm, most bright,  
 The fruit of this, the next world's bud,  
 The indorsement of supreme delight,  
 Writ by a friend, and with His blood ;  
 The couch of Time, Care's balm and bay :  
 The week were dark but for thy light—  
 Thy Torch doth show the way.

The Sundays of man's life,  
 Threaded together on Time's string,  
 Make bracelets to adorn the wife  
 Of the eternal glorious King :  
 On Sunday heaven's gate stands ope ;  
 Blessings are plentiful and rife,  
 More plentiful than hope.

G. HERBERT.

## 444. VIRTUE

SWEET day, so cool, so calm, so bright,  
 The bridal of the earth and sky,  
 The dew shall weep thy fall to-night,  
 For thou must die.

Sweet rose, whose hue, angry and brave,  
 Bids the rash gazer wipe his eye,  
 Thy root is ever in its grave,  
 And thou must die.

Sweet spring, full of sweet days and roses,  
 A box where sweets compacted lie,  
 My music shows you have your closes,  
 And all must die.

Only a sweet and virtuous soul,  
 Like seasoned timber, never gives ;  
 But though the whole world turn to coal,  
 Then chiefly lives.

G. HERBERT.

## 445 THE ELIXIR

TEACH me, my God and King,  
 In all things Thee to see,  
 And what I do in anything  
 To do it as for Thee.

All may of Thee partake  
 Nothing can be so mean  
 Which with his tincture, ' for Thy  
 sake ',  
 Will not grow bright and clean.

A servant with this clause  
 Makes drudgery divine ;  
 Who sweeps a room, as for Thy laws,  
 Makes that and the action fine.

G. HERBERT.



## 446. THE PULLEY

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 dispersèd lie,  
 Contract into a span.'

So strength first made a way,  
 Then beauty flowèd, 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.

## 447. TO LAURELS

A FUNERAL stone  
 Or verse, I covet none ;  
 But only crave  
 Of you, that I may have  
 A sacred laurel springing from my grave,  
 Which being seen,  
 Blessed with perpetual green,  
 May grow to be  
 Not so much called a tree,  
 As the eternal monument of me.

R. HERRICK.

## 448. DELIGHT IN DISORDER

<p>A SWEET disorder in the dress          Kindles in clothes a wanton-              ness ;          A lawn about the shoulders              thrown          Into a fine distraction ;          An erring lace, which here and              there          Enthral's a crimson stomacher ;</p>	<p>A cuff neglectful, and thereby          Ribands 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.</p>
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R. HERRICK.

## 449. AN ODE FOR BEN JONSON

AH Ben !  
 Say how, or when  
 Shall we, thy guests,  
 Meet at those lyric feasts,  
 Made at the Sun,  
 The Dog, the Triple Tun ;  
 Where we such clusters had,  
 As made us nobly wild, not  
 mad ?

And yet each verse of thine  
 Out-did the meat, out-did the  
 frolic wine.

My Ben !  
 Or come agen,  
 Or send to us  
 Thy wit's great over-plus ;  
 But teach us yet  
 Wisely to husband it,  
 Lest we that talent spend ;  
 And having once brought to an  
 end

That precious stock, the store  
 Of such a wit the world should  
 have no more.

R. HERRICK.

## 450. 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.

## 451. TO MUSIC, TO BECALM HIS FEVER

CHARM me asleep, and melt me  
 so

With thy delicious numbers ;  
 That being ravished, hence I go  
 Away in easy slumbers.

Ease my sick head,  
 And make my bed,  
 Thou power that canst sever  
 From me this ill,  
 And quickly still,  
 Though thou not kill  
 My fever,

Thou sweetly canst convert the  
 same

From a consuming fire,  
 Into a gentle-licking flame,  
 And make it thus expire.  
 Then make me weep  
 My pains asleep,  
 And give me such reposes,  
 That I, poor I,  
 May think, thereby,  
 I live and die  
 'Mongst roses.

Fall on me like a silent dew,  
 Or like those maiden showers,  
 Which, by the peep of day, do strew  
 A baptism o'er the flowers.  
 Melt, melt my pains,  
 With thy soft strains ;  
 That having ease me given,  
 With full delight,  
 I leave this light,  
 And take my flight  
 For heaven.

R. HERRICK.

## 452. TO DAFFODILS

<p>FAIR Daffodils, we weep to see          You haste away so soon ;          As yet the early-rising sun          Has not attained his noon.          Stay, stay,          Until the hasting day          Has run          But to the even-song ;          And, having prayed together, we          Will go with you along.</p>	<p>We have short time to stay as you,          We have as short a Spring ;          As quick a growth to meet decay,          As you, or anything.          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.</p>
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R. HERRICK.

## 453. 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.

## 454. HIS PRAYER FOR ABSOLUTION

For those my unbaptizèd rhymes,  
 Writ in my wild unhallowed times ;  
 For every sentence, clause, and word,  
 That's not inlaid with Thee, my Lord,  
 Forgive me, God, and blot each line  
 Out of my book that is not Thine.  
 But if, 'mongst all, Thou find'st here one  
 Worthy Thy benediction ;  
 That one of all the rest shall be  
 The glory of my work and me.

R. HERRICK.

## 455. TO THE VIRGINS TO MAKE MUCH OF TIME

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 still 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.

## 456. CORINNA'S GOING A-MAYING

GET up, get up for shame, the blooming morn  
 Upon her wings presents the god unshorn.

See how Aurora throws her fair  
 Fresh-quilted colours through the air :  
 Get up, sweet slug-a-bed, and see  
 The dew bespangling herb and tree.

Each flower has wept, and bowed toward the east,  
 Above an hour since, yet you not dressed,

Nay ! not so much as out of bed ;  
 When all the birds have Matins said,  
 And sung their thankful hymns ; 'tis sin,  
 Nay, profanation to keep in,

Whenas a thousand virgins on this day,  
 Spring, sooner than the lark, to fetch in May.

Rise, and put on your foliage, and be seen  
 To come forth, like the spring-time, fresh and green ;  
     And sweet as Flora. Take no care  
     For jewels for your gown, or hair ;  
     Fear not, the leaves will strew  
     Gems in abundance upon you ;  
 Besides, the childhood of the day has kept,  
 Against you come, some orient pearls unwept.  
     Come, and receive them while the light  
     Hangs on the dew-locks of the night :  
     And Titan on the eastern hill  
     Retires himself, or else stands still  
 Till you come forth. Wash, dress, be brief in praying ;  
 Few beads are best, when once we go a-Maying.

Come, my Corinna, come ; and coming, mark  
 How each field turns a street, each street a park  
     Made green, and trimmed with trees : see how  
     Devotion gives each house a bough,  
     Or branch ; each porch, each door, ere this,  
     An ark, a tabernacle is,  
 Made up of whitethorn neatly interwove ;  
 As if here were those cooler shades of love.  
     Can such delights be in the street,  
     And open fields, and we not see 't ?  
     Come, we'll abroad, and let 's obey  
     The proclamation made for May :  
 And sin no more, as we have done, by staying :  
 But, my Corinna, come, let 's go a-Maying.

There 's not a budding boy or girl, this day,  
 But is got up, and gone to bring in May.  
     A deal of youth, ere this, is come  
     Back, and with whitethorn laden home.  
     Some have dispatched their cakes and cream,  
     Before that we have left to dream ;  
 And some have wept, and wooed, and plighted troth,  
 And chose their priest, ere we can cast off sloth :  
     Many a green-gown has been given ;  
     Many a kiss both odd and even ;  
     Many a glance too has been sent  
     From out the eye, love's firmament ;  
 Many a jest told of the key's betraying  
 This night, and locks picked, yet we're not a-Maying.

Come, let us go, while we are in our prime,  
 And take the harmless folly of the time.  
     We shall grow old apace and die  
     Before we know our liberty.

Our life is short, and our days run  
 As fast away as does the sun ;  
 And as a vapour, or a drop of rain  
 Once lost, can ne'er be found again ;  
 So when or you or I are made  
 A fable, song, or fleeting shade ;  
 All love, all liking, all delight  
 Lies drowned with us in endless night.  
 Then while time serves, and we are but decaying,  
 Come, my Corinna, come, let 's go a-Maying.

R. HERRICK.

## 457. GRACE FOR A CHILD

HERE a little child I stand,  
 Heaving up my either hand ;  
 Cold as paddocks though they be  
 Here I lift them up to Thee,  
 For a benison to fall  
 On our meat, and on us all. *Amen.*

R. HERRICK.

## 458. TO ELECTRA

I DARE not ask a kiss, I dare not beg a smile ; Lest having that, or this, I might grow proud the while.	No, no, the utmost share Of my desire, shall be, Only to kiss that air That lately kiss'd thee.
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R. HERRICK.

## 459. HIS LITANY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

IN the hour of my distress, When temptations me oppress, And when I my sins confess, Sweet Spirit, comfort me !	When the artless doctor sees No one hope, hut of his fees, And his skill runs on the lees, Sweet Spirit, comfort me !
When I lie within my bed, Sick in heart, and sick in head, And with doubts discomfortèd, Sweet Spirit, comfort me !	When his potion and his pill, His, or none, or little skill, Meet for nothing but to kill, Sweet Spirit, comfort me !
. . . . .	. . . . .

When the priest his last hath prayed,  
 And I nod to what is said,  
 'Cause my speech is now decayed,  
 Sweet Spirit, comfort me !

R. HERRICK.

## 460. A THANKSGIVING

LORD, I confess too, when I dine,  
 The pulse is Thine,  
 And all those other bits that be  
 There placed by Thee ;  
 The worts, the purslane, and the mess  
 Of water-cress,  
 Which of Thy kindness Thou hast sent ;  
 And my content  
 Makes those, and my belovèd beet,  
 To be more sweet.

Lord, 'tis Thy plenty-dropping hand,  
 That soils my land,  
 And giv'st me, for my bushel sown,  
 Twice ten for one ;  
 Thou mak'st my teeming hen to lay  
 Her egg each day ;  
 Besides my healthful ewes to bear  
 Me twins each year ;  
 The while the conduits of my kine  
 Run cream for wine.

R. HERRICK (*A Thanksgiving to God,  
 for his house*).

## 461. TO ANTHEA

Now is the time, when all the lights wax dim ;  
 And thou, Anthea, must withdraw from him  
 Who was thy servant : Dearest, bury me  
 Under that holy-oak, or gospel-tree ;  
 Where, though thou see'st not, thou mayst think upon  
 Me, when thou yearly go'st procession ;  
 Or for mine honour, lay me in that tomb  
 In which thy sacred reliques shall have room ;  
 For my embalming, Sweetest, there will be  
 No spices wanting when I'm laid by thee.

R. HERRICK.

## 462. 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.

## 463. HIS PRAYER TO BEN JONSON

WHEN I a verse shall make,  
 Know I have prayed thee,  
 For old religion's sake,  
 Saint Ben, to aid me.

Make the way smooth for me,  
 When I, thy Herrick,  
 Honouring thee, on my knee  
 Offer my lyric.

Candles I'll give to thee,  
 And a new altar;  
 And thou, Saint Ben, shalt be  
 Writ in my psalter.

R. HERRICK.

## 464. UPON JULIA'S CLOTHES

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.

## 465. A PRAISE OF HIS LADY

GIVE place, you ladies, and be  
 gone;  
 Boast not yourselves at all,  
 For here at hand approacheth one  
 Whose face will stain you all.

The virtue of her lively looks  
 Excels the precious stone;  
 I wish to have none other books  
 To read or look upon.

I think Nature hath lost the mould  
 Where she her shape did take;  
 Or else I doubt if Nature could  
 So fair a creature make.

In life she is Diana chaste;  
 In truth Penelope;  
 In word and eke in deed stead-  
 fast;

'What will you more?' say we.  
 J. HEYWOOD.

## 466. PACK, CLOUDS, AWAY, AND WELCOME DAY

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 all I'll borrow.



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

T. HEYWOOD (*The Rape of Lucrece*).

467. YE LITTLE BIRDS THAT SIT AND SING

YE little birds that sit and sing  
 Amidst the shady valleys,  
 And see how Phyllis sweetly walks  
 Within her garden-alleys ;  
 Go, pretty birds, about her bower ;  
 Sing, pretty birds, she may not lower ;  
 Ah, me ! methinks I see her frown !  
 Ye pretty wantons, warble.  
 Go tell her through your chirping bills,  
 As you by me are bidden,  
 To her is only known my love,  
 Which from the world is hidden.  
 Go, pretty birds, and tell her so ;  
 See that your notes strain not too low,  
 For still, methinks, I see her frown ;  
 Ye pretty wantons, warble.

O fly ! make haste ! see, see, she falls  
 Into a pretty slumber !  
 Sing round about her rosy bed  
 That waking she may wonder.  
 Say to her, 'tis her lover true  
 That sendeth love to you, to you ;  
 And when you hear her kind reply  
 Return with pleasant warblings.

T. HEYWOOD (*The Fair Maid of the Exchange*).

468. TENDER-HANDED STROKE A NETTLE

<p>TENDER-HANDED stroke a nettle,                  And it stings you for your                  pains ;                  Grasp it like a man of mettle,                  And it soft as silk remains.</p>	<p>'Tis the same with common                  natures,                  Use them kindly, they rebel ;                  But be rough as nutmeg-graters,                  And the rogues obey you well.</p>
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AARON HILL.

## 469. THE SKYLARK

BIRD of the wilderness,  
Blithesome and cumberless,  
Sweet be thy matin o'er moorland and lea!  
Emblem of happiness,  
Blest is thy dwelling-place—  
Oh, to abide in the desert with thee!

Wild is thy lay and loud,  
Far in the downy cloud;  
Love gives it energy, love gave it birth.  
Where, on thy dewy wing,  
Where art thou journeying?  
Thy lay is in heaven, thy love is on earth.

O'er fell and fountain sheen,  
O'er moor and mountain green,  
O'er the red streamer that heralds the day,  
Over the cloudlet dim,  
Over the rainbow's rim,  
Musical cherub, soar, singing, away!

Then, when the gloaming comes,  
Low in the heather blooms,  
Sweet will thy welcome and bed of love be!  
Emblem of happiness,  
Blest is thy dwelling-place—  
Oh, to abide in the desert with thee!

J. Hogg.

## 470. FROM 'MY LOVE SHE'S BUT A LASSIE YET'

My love she's but a lassie yet,  
A lightsome lovely lassie yet;  
It scarce wad do  
To sit an' woo  
Down by the stream sae glassy yet.  
But there's a braw time coming  
yet,  
When we may gang a-roaming yet,  
An' hint wi' glee  
O' joys to be,  
When fa's the modest gloaming  
yet.

She's neither proud nor saucy yet,  
She's neither plump nor gaucy  
yet,  
But just a jinking,  
Bonny blinking,  
Hilty-skilty lassie yet.  
But O her artless smile's mair  
sweet  
Than hinny or than marmalete,  
An' right or wrang,  
Ere it be lang,  
I'll bring her to a parley yet.

J. HOGG.

## 471. FROM 'A BOY'S SONG'

WHERE the pools are bright and deep,  
Where the grey trout lies asleep,  
Up the river and o'er the lea,  
That's the way for Billy and me.

Where the blackbird sings the latest,  
 Where the hawthorn blooms the sweetest,  
 Where the nestlings chirp and flee,  
 That's the way for Billy and me.

Where the mowers mow the cleanest,  
 Where the hay lies thick and greenest:  
 There to trace the homeward bee,  
 That's the way for Billy and me.

Where the hazel bank is steepest,  
 When the shadow falls the deepest,  
 When the clustering nuts fall free,  
 That's the way for Billy and me.

J. Hogg.

#### 472. THE CROOKED FOOTPATH

AH, here it is! the sliding rail  
 That marks the old remembered spot,—  
 The gap that struck our schoolboy trail,—  
 The crooked path across the lot.

It left the road by school and church,  
 A pencilled shadow, nothing more,  
 That parted from the silver birch  
 And ended at the farm-house door.

No line or compass traced its plan;  
 With frequent bends to left or right,  
 In aimless, wayward curves it ran,  
 But always kept the door in sight.  
 The gabled porch, with woodbine green,—  
 The broken millstone at the sill,—  
 Though many a rood might stretch between,  
 The truant child could see them still.

No rocks across the pathway lie,—  
 No fallen trunk is o'er it thrown,—  
 And yet it winds, we know not why,  
 And turns as if for tree or stone.

Perhaps some lover trod the way  
 With shaking knees and leaping heart,—  
 And so it often runs astray  
 With sinuous sweep or sudden start.

Or one, perchance, with clouded brain  
 From some unholy banquet reeled,—  
 And since, our devious steps maintain  
 His track across the trodden field.

Nay, deem not thus,—no earthborn will  
 Could ever trace a faultless line ;  
 Our truest steps are human still,—  
 To walk unswerving were divine !

Truants from love, we dream of wrath ;—  
 Oh, rather, let us trust the more !  
 Through all the wanderings of the path,  
 We still can see our Father's door !

O. W. HOLMES.

#### 473. OLD IRONSIDES

AYE, tear her tattered ensign down !  
 Long has it waved on high,  
 And many an eye has danced to see  
 That banner in the sky :  
 Beneath it rung the battle-shout  
 And burst the cannon's roar ;—  
 The meteor of the ocean air  
 Shall sweep the clouds no more.

Her deck, once red with heroes' blood,  
 Where knelt the vanquished foe,  
 When winds were hurrying o'er the flood,  
 And waves were white below,  
 No more shall feel the victor's tread,  
 Or know the conquered knee,—  
 The harpies of the shore shall pluck  
 The eagle of the sea !

O better that her shattered hulk  
 Should sink beneath the wave ;  
 Her thunders shook the mighty deep,  
 And there should be her grave ;  
 Nail to the mast her holy flag,  
 Set every threadbare sail,  
 And give her to the god of storms,  
 The lightning and the gale.

O. W. HOLMES.

#### 474. BUILD THEE MORE STATELY MANSIONS

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 (*The Chambered Nautilus*).

## 475. L' INCONNUE

Is thy name Mary, maiden fair ?  
 Such should, methinks, its music be ;  
 The sweetest name that mortals bear  
 Were best befitting thee ;  
 And she to whom it once was given,  
 Was half of earth and half of heaven.  
 I hear thy voice, I see thy smile,  
 I look upon thy folded hair ;  
 Ah ! while we dream not they beguile,  
 Our hearts are in the snare ;  
 And she who chains a wild bird's wing  
 Must start not if her captive sing.  
 So, lady, take the leaf that falls,  
 To all but thee unseen, unknown ;  
 When evening shades thy silent walls,  
 Then read it all alone ;  
 In stillness read, in darkness seal,  
 Forget, despise, but not reveal !

O. W. HOLMES.

## 476. THE EARTH-BORN SAINT

O BLISSFUL dream ! Our nursery joys  
 We know must have an end,  
 But love and friendship's broken toys  
 May God's good angels mend !  
 The cheering smile, the voice of mirth  
 And laughter's gay surprise  
 That please the children born of earth,  
 Why deem that Heaven denies ?  
 Methinks in that refulgent sphere  
 That knows not sun or moon,  
 An earth-born saint might long to hear  
 One verse of 'Bonnie Doon',  
 O. W. HOLMES (*Our Sweet Singer J. A.*).

## 477. FAREWELL, LIFE ! MY SENSES SWIM

FAREWELL, Life ! my senses swim ; And the world is growing dim ; Thronging shadows cloud the light, Like the advent of the night,— Colder, colder, colder still Upward steals a vapour chill— Strong the earthy odour grows— I smell the Mould above the Rose !	Welcome, Life ! the Spirit strives ! Strength returns, and hope revives ; Cloudy fears and shapes forlorn Fly like shadows at the morn,— O'er the earth there comes a bloom— Sunny light for sullen gloom, Warm perfume for vapour cold, I smell the Rose above the Mould. T. HOOD.
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## 478. IT WAS NOT IN THE WINTER

It was not in the winter  
 Our loving lot was cast !  
 It was the time of roses,  
 We plucked them as we passed !  
 That churlish season never frowned  
 On early lovers yet !—  
 Oh no—the world was newly  
 crowned  
 With flowers, when first we met.

'Twas twilight, and I bade you go,  
 But still you held me fast ;—  
 It was the time of roses,—  
 We plucked them as we passed !  
 What else could peer my glowing  
 cheek  
 That tears began to stud ?—  
 And when I asked the like of Love  
 You snatched a damask bud,—

And oped it to the dainty core  
 Still glowing till the last :—  
 It was the time of roses,  
 We plucked them as we passed !     T. HOOD.

## 479. MY MOTHER BIDS ME SPEND MY SMILES

My mother bids me spend my smiles  
 On all who come and call me fair,  
 As crumbs are thrown upon the tiles,  
 To all the sparrows of the air.  
 But I've a darling of my own  
 For whom I hoard my little stock—  
 What if I chirp him all alone,  
 And leave mamma to feed the flock !

T. HOOD.

## 480. TO MINERVA

My temples throb, my pulses boil,  
 I'm sick of Song, and Ode, and  
 Ballad—  
 So, Thyrsis, take the Midnight Oil,  
 And pour it on a lobster salad.

My brain is dull, my sight is foul,  
 I cannot write a verse, or read,—  
 Then, Pallas, take away thine Owl,  
 And let us have a lark instead.  
 T. HOOD.

## 481. NO !

No sun—no moon !  
 No morn—no noon—  
 No dawn—no dusk—no proper time of day—  
 No sky—no earthly view—  
 No distance looking blue—  
 No road—no street—no 't'other side the way'—  
 No end to any Row—  
 No indications where the Crescents go—  
 No top to any steeple—  
 No recognitions of familiar people—

No courtesies for showing 'em—  
 No knowing 'em !—  
 No travelling at all—no locomotion,  
 No inkling of the way—no notion—  
 'No go'—by land or ocean—  
 No mail—no post—  
 No news from any foreign coast—  
 No Park—no Ring—no afternoon gentility—  
 No company—no nobility—  
 No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,  
 No comfortable feel in any member—  
 No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,  
 No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds—  
 November !

T. HOOD.

## 482. FAIR INES

OH, saw ye not fair Ines ?  
 She's gone into the West,  
 To dazzle when the sun is down,  
 And rob the world of rest :  
 She took our daylight with her,  
 The smiles that we love best,  
 With morning blushes on her  
 cheek,  
 And pearls upon her breast.

O, turn again, fair Ines,  
 Before the fall of night,  
 For fear the Moon should shine  
 alone,  
 And stars unrivalled bright ;  
 And blessèd will the lover be  
 That walks beneath their light,  
 And breathes the love against thy  
 cheek  
 I dare not even write !

Would I had been, fair Ines,  
 That gallant cavalier,  
 Who rode so gaily by thy side,  
 And whispered thee so near !—  
 Were there no bonny dames at  
 home  
 Or no true lovers here,  
 That he should cross the seas to  
 win  
 The dearest of the dear ?

I saw thee, lovely Ines,  
 Descend along the shore,  
 With bands of noble gentlemen,  
 And banners waved before ;  
 And gentle youth and maidens  
 gay,  
 And snowy plumes they wore ;—  
 It would have been a beauteous  
 dream,  
 —If it had been no more.

Alas, alas, fair Ines,  
 She went away with song,  
 With music waiting on her steps,  
 And shoutings of the throng ;  
 But some were sad, and felt no  
 mirth,  
 But only Music's wrong,  
 In sounds that sang Farewell,  
 farewell,  
 To her you've loved so long.

Farewell, farewell, fair Ines !  
 That vessel never bore  
 So fair a lady on its deck,  
 Nor danced so light before,—  
 Alas for pleasure on the sea,  
 And sorrow on the shore !  
 The smile that blessed one lover's  
 heart  
 Has broken many more !  
 T. HOOD.

## 483. THE BRIDGE OF SIGHS

ONE more Unfortunate,  
 Weary of breath,  
 Rashly importunate,  
 Gone to her death !  
 Take her up tenderly,  
 Lift her with care ;  
 Fashioned 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 !

Oh ! 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 hurled—  
 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 ;  
 Fashioned so slenderly,  
 Young, and so fair !  
 Ere her limbs frigidly  
 Stiffen too rigidly,  
 Decently,—kindly,—  
 Smoothe and compose them :  
 And her eyes, close them,  
 Staring so blindly !



Dreadfully staring  
Through muddy impurity,  
As when with the daring  
Last look of despairing,  
Fixed on futurity.

Perishing gloomily,  
Spurred 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.

#### 484. RUTH

SHE stood breast-high amid the  
corn,  
Clasped by the golden light of  
morn,  
Like the sweetheart of the sun,  
Who many a glowing kiss had won.

On her cheek an autumn flush,  
Deeply ripened;—such a blush  
In the midst of brown was born,  
Like red poppies grown with corn.

Round her eyes her tresses fell,  
Which were blackest none could  
tell,  
But long lashes veiled a light,  
That had else been all too bright.

And her hat, with shady brim,  
Made her tressy forehead dim—  
Thus she stood amid the stooks,  
Praising God with sweetest looks.

Sure, I said, heaven did not mean  
Where I reap thou shouldst but glean,  
Lay thy sheaf adown and come,  
Share my harvest and my home.

T. HOOD.

#### 485. FROM AN 'ODE: AUTUMN'

THE squirrel gloats on his accomplished hoard,  
The ants have brimmed their garners with ripe grain,  
And honey bees have stored  
The sweets of Summer in their luscious cells;  
The swallows all have winged across the main;  
But here the Autumn melancholy dwells,  
And sighs her tearful spells  
Amongst the sunless shadows of the plain.  
Alone, alone,  
Upon a mossy stone,  
She sits and reckons up the dead and gone  
With the last leaves for a love-rosary,  
Whilst all the withered world looks drearily,  
Like a dim picture of the drownèd past  
In the hushed mind's mysterious far away,  
Doubtful what ghostly thing will steal the last  
Into that distance, grey upon the grey.

O go and sit with her, and be o'ershaded  
 Under the languid downfall of her hair :  
 She wears a coronal of flowers faded  
 Upon her forehead, and a face of care ;—  
 There is enough of withered every where  
 To make her bower,—and enough of gloom ;  
 There is enough of sadness to invite,  
 If only for the rose that died,—whose doom  
 Is Beauty's,—she that with the living bloom  
 Of conscious cheeks most beautifies the light ;—  
 There is enough of sorrowing, and quite  
 Enough of bitter fruits the earth doth bear,—  
 Enough of chilly droppings for her bowl ;  
 Enough of fear and shadowy despair,  
 To frame her cloudy prison for the soul !

T. HOOD.

## 486. THE DEATH-BED

<p>WE watched her breathing through          the night,          Her breathing soft and low,          As in her breast the wave of          life          Kept heaving to and fro !          So silently we seemed to speak—          So slowly moved about !          As we had lent her half our powers          To eke her living out !</p>	<p>Our very hopes belied our fears,          Our fears our hopes belied—          We thought her dying when she          slept,          And sleeping when she died !          For when the morn came dim and          sad—          And chill with early showers,          Her quiet eyelids closed—she had          Another morn than ours !</p>
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T. HOOD.

## 487. THE PLOUGH

ABOVE yon sombre swell of land  
 Thou seest the dawn's grave orange hue,  
 With one pale streak like yellow sand,  
 And over that a vein of blue.

The air is cold above the woods ;  
 All silent is the earth and sky,  
 Except with his own lonely moods  
 The blackbird holds a colloquy.

Over the broad hill creeps a beam,  
 Like hope that gilds a good man's brow ;  
 And now ascends the nostril-steam  
 Of stalwart horses come to plough.

Ye rigid ploughmen, bear in mind—  
 Your labour is for future hours,  
 Advance—spare not—nor look behind—  
 Plough deep and straight with all your powers.

R. H. HORNE.

## 488. THE HAPPY LIFE

MARTIAL, the things that do attain  
 The happy life be these, I find:—  
 The riches left, not got with pain;  
 The fruitful ground, the quiet mind;  
 The equal friend; no grudge, no strife;  
 No charge of rule, nor governance;  
 Without disease, the healthful life;  
 The household of continuance;  
 The mean diet, no delicate fare;  
 True wisdom joined with simpleness;  
 The night discharged of all care,  
 Where wine the wit may not oppress;  
 The faithful wife, without debate;  
 Such sleeps as may beguile the night:  
 Contented with thine own estate,  
 Ne wish for death, ne fear his might.

H. HOWARD, EARL OF SURREY.

## 489. DESCRIPTION OF SPRING

WHEREIN EACH THING RENEWS, SAVE ONLY THE LOVER

THE soote season, that bud and bloom forth brings,  
 With green hath clad the hill, and eke the vale.  
 The nightingale, with feathers new, she sings;  
 The turtle to her make hath told her tale.  
 Summer is come, for every spray now springs.  
 The hart hath hung his old head on the pale;  
 The buck in brake his winter coat he flings;  
 The fishes fleet with new repaired scale.  
 The adder all her slough away she slings;  
 The swift swallow pursueth the flies small;  
 The busy bee her honey now she mings;  
 Winter is worn that was the flowers' bale.  
 And thus I see among these pleasant things  
 Each care decays; and yet my sorrow springs.

H. HOWARD, EARL OF SURREY.

## 490. ABOU BEN ADHEM

ABOU BEN ADHEM (may his tribe increase)  
 Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,  
 And saw—within the moonlight in his room,  
 Making it rich and like a lily in bloom—  
 An angel, writing in a book of gold.  
 Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,  
 And to the presence in the room he said,  
 'What writest thou?'—The vision raised its head,

And, with a look made of all sweet accord,  
 Answered, 'The names of those who love the Lord.'  
 'And is mine one?' said Abou. 'Nay, not so,'  
 Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,  
 But cheerly still, and said, 'I pray thee, then,  
 Write me as one that loves his fellow men.'

The angel wrote and vanished. The next night  
 It came again with a great wakening light,  
 And showed the names whom love of God had blessed,  
 And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

J. H. LEIGH HUNT.

#### 491. DIRGE

BLEST is the turf, screnely blest,  
 Where throbbing hearts may sink to rest,  
 Where life's long journey turns to sleep,  
 Nor ever pilgrim wakes to weep.  
 A little sod, a few sad flowers,  
 A tear for long-departed hours,  
 Is all that feeling hearts request  
 To hush their weary thoughts to rest.  
 There shall no vain ambition come  
 To lure them from their quiet home;  
 Nor sorrow lift, with heart-strings riven,  
 The meek imploring eye to heaven;  
 Nor sad remembrance stoop to shed  
 His wrinkles on the slumberer's head;  
 And never, never love repair  
 To breathe his idle whispers there!

J. H. LEIGH HUNT.

#### 492. THE GRASSHOPPER AND THE CRICKET

GREEN little vaulter in the sunny grass,  
 Catching your heart up at the feel of June,  
 Sole voice that's heard amidst the lazy noon,  
 When even the bees lag at the summoning brass;  
 And you, warm little housekeeper, who class  
 With those who think the candles come too soon,  
 Loving the fire, and with your tricksome tune  
 Nick the glad silent moments as they pass;

Oh sweet and tiny cousins, that belong,  
 One to the fields, the other to the hearth,  
 Both have your sunshine; both though small are strong  
 At your clear hearts; and both seem given to earth  
 To ring in thoughtful ears this natural song—  
 Indoors and out, summer and winter, Mirth.

J. H. LEIGH HUNT.

## 493. JENNY KISSED ME WHEN WE MET

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 kissed me !

J. H. LEIGH HUNT.

## 494. THE DEAREST POETS

WERE I to name, out of the times gone by,  
 The poets dearest to me, I should say,  
 Pulci for spirits, and a fine, free way ;  
 Chaucer for manners, and close, silent eye ;  
 Milton for classic taste, and harp strung high ;  
 Spenser for luxury, and sweet, sylvan play ;  
 Horace for chatting with, from day to day ;  
 Shakespeare for all, but most, society.

But which take with me, could I take but one ?  
 Shakespeare,—as long as I was unoppressed  
 With the world's weight, making sad thoughts intenser ;  
 But did I wish, out of the common sun  
 To lay a wounded heart in leafy rest,  
 And dream of things far off and healing,—Spenser.

J. H. LEIGH HUNT.

## 495. MY MOTHER BIDS ME BIND MY HAIR

My mother bids me bind my hair  
 With bands of rosy hue ;  
 Tie up my sleeves with ribbons rare,  
 And lace my bodice blue !  
 'For why,' she cries, 'sit still and weep,  
   While others dance and play ?'  
 Alas ! I scarce can go, or creep,  
   While Lubin is away !  
 'Tis sad to think the days are gone  
   When those we love were near !  
 I sit upon this mossy stonc,  
   And sigh when none can hear :  
 And while I spin my flaxen thread,  
   And sing my simple lay,  
 The village seems asleep, or dead,  
   Now Lubin is away !

ANNE HUNTER.

496. FROM 'THE HIGH TIDE ON THE  
LINCOLNSHIRE COAST'

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 mel-  
low,  
Mellow, mellow;  
Quit your cowslips, cowslips yel-  
low;  
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.

## 497. OH, MY LOST LOVE

OH, my lost love, and my own, own love,  
And my love that loved me so!  
Is there never a chink in the world above  
Where they listen for words from below?  
Nay, I spoke once, and I grieved thee sore,  
I remember all that I said,  
And now thou wilt hear me no more—no more  
Till the sea gives up her dead.

Thou didst set thy foot on the ship, and sail  
To the ice-fields and the snow;  
Thou wert sad, for thy love did naught avail,  
And the end I could not know;  
How could I tell I should love thee to-day,  
Whom that day I held not dear?  
How could I know I should love thee away  
When I did not love thee anear?

JEAN INGELOW (*Supper at the Mill*).

## 498. PLAYING ON THE VIRGINALS

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 (*Supper at the Mill*).

## 499. TO BEAR, TO NURSE, TO REAR

To bear, to nurse, to rear,  
 To watch, and then to lose :  
 To see my bright ones disappear,  
 Drawn up like morning dews—  
 To bear, to nurse, to rear,  
 To watch, and then to lose :  
 This have I done when God drew  
 near  
 Among His own to choose.

To hear, to heed, to wed,  
 And with thy lord depart  
 In tears that he, as soon as  
 shed,  
 Will let no longer smart.—  
 To hear, to heed, to wed,  
 This while thou didst I smiled,  
 For now it was not God who  
 said,  
 'Mother, give Me thy child.'

O fond, O fool, and blind,  
 To God I gave with tears ;  
 But when a man like grace would  
 find,  
 My soul put by her fears—  
 O fond, O fool, and blind,  
 God guards in happier spheres ;  
 That man will guard where he  
 did bind  
 Is hope for unknown years.

To hear, to heed, to wed,  
 Fair lot that maidens choose,  
 Thy mother's tenderest words are  
 said,  
 Thy face no more she views  
 Thy mother's lot, my dear,  
 She doth in naught accuse ;  
 Her lot to bear, to nurse, to rear,  
 To love—and then to lose.

JEAN INGELOW (*Songs of Seven*).

## 500. WHEN THE DIMPLED WATER SLIPPETH

WHEN the dimpled water slippeth,  
 Full of laughter on its way,  
 And her wing the wagtail dippeth,  
 Running by the brink at play ;  
 When the poplar leaves a-tremble  
 Turn their edges to the light,  
 And the far-up clouds resemble  
 Veils of gauze most clear and  
 white ;  
 And the sunbeams fall and flatter  
 Woodland moss and branches  
 brown,  
 And the glossy finches chatter  
 Up and down, up and down :  
 Though the heart be not attending,  
 Having music of her own,  
 On the grass, through meadows  
 wending,  
 It is sweet to walk alone.

When the falling waters utter  
 Something mournful on their  
 way,  
 And departing swallows flutter,  
 Taking leave of bank and brae ;  
 When the chaffinch idly sitteth  
 With her mate upon the sheaves,  
 And the wistful robin flitteth  
 Over beds of yellow leaves ;  
 When the clouds, like ghosts that  
 ponder  
 Evil fate, float by and frown,  
 And the listless wind doth wander  
 Up and down, up and down :  
 Though the heart be not attending,  
 Having sorrows of her own,  
 Through the fields and fallows  
 wending,  
 It is sad to walk alone.

JEAN INGELow (*Afternoon at a Parsnage*).

## 501. WITH LEADEN FOOT TIME CREEPS ALONG

WITH leaden foot time creeps along,  
 While Delia is away ;  
 With her, nor plaintive was the song,  
 Nor tedious was the day,  
 Ah ! envious power, reverse my doom ;  
 Now double thy career ;  
 Strain every nerve, stretch every plume,  
 And rest them when she's here.

R. JAGO.

## 502. SONNET

PREFIXED TO HIS MAJESTY'S INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS DEAREST  
 SON, HENRY THE PRINCE

GOD gives not kings the style of gods in vain,  
 For on His throne His sceptre do they sway ;  
 And as their subjects ought them to obey,  
 So kings should fear and serve their God again.  
 If then ye would enjoy a happy reign,  
 Observe the statutes of your Heavenly King,  
 And from His Law make all your laws to spring,  
 Since His lieutenant here ye should remain :  
 Reward the just ; be steadfast, true, and plain ;  
 Repress the proud, maintaining ay the right ;  
 Walk always so as ever in His sight,  
 Who guards the godly, plaguing the profane,  
 And so ye shall in princely virtues shine,  
 Resembling right your mighty King divine.

KING JAMES I.



503. ON THE DEATH OF MR. ROBERT LEVET,  
A PRACTISER IN PHYSIC

IN misery's darkest cavern known,  
His useful care was ever nigh,  
Where hopeless anguish poured his groan,  
And lonely want retired to die ;

No summons mocked by chill delay,  
No petty gain disdained by pride,  
The modest wants of every day  
The toil of every day supplied.

His virtues walked their narrow round,  
Nor made a pause, nor left a void :  
And sure the Eternal Master found  
The single talent well employed.

S. JOHNSON.

## 504. BY POVERTY DEPRESSED

OF all the griefs that harass the distressed,  
Sure the most bitter is a scornful jest ;  
Fate never wounds more deep the generous heart  
Than when a blockhead's insult points the dart.

Has Heaven reserved, in pity to the poor,  
No pathless waste, or undiscovered shore ?  
No secret island in the boundless main ?  
No peaceful desert yet unclaimed by Spain ?  
Quick let us rise, the happy seats explore,  
And bear oppression's insolence no more.  
This mournful truth is everywhere confessed,  
Slow rises worth by poverty depressed.

S. JOHNSON (*London*).

## 505. CHARLES XII

ON what foundation stands the warrior's pride,  
How just his hopes let Swedish Charles decide.  
A frame of adamant, a soul of fire,  
No dangers fright him, and no labours tire ;  
O'er love, o'er fear, extends his wide domain,  
Unconquered lord of pleasure and of pain ;  
No joys to him pacific sceptres yield,  
War sounds the trump, he rushes to the field.  
Behold surrounding kings their powers combine,  
And one capitulate, and one resign :  
Peace courts his hand, but spreads her charms in vain :  
'Think nothing gained,' he cries, 'till naught remain,  
On Moscow's walls till Gothic standards fly,  
And all be mine beneath the polar sky.'

The march begins, in military state,  
 And nations on his eye suspended wait ;  
 Stern famine guards the solitary coast,  
 And Winter barricades the realms of frost ;  
 He comes, nor want nor cold his course delay !—  
 Hide, blushing glory, hide Pultowa's day :  
 The vanquished hero leaves his broken bands,  
 And shows his miseries in distant lands ;  
 Condemned a needy supplicant to wait,  
 While ladies interpose, and slaves debate.  
 But did not chance at length her error mend ?  
 Did no subverted empire mark his end ?  
 Did rival monarchs give the fatal wound ?  
 Or hostile millions press him to the ground ?  
 His fall was destined to a barren strand,  
 A petty fortress, and a dubious hand :  
 He left the name at which the world grew pale,  
 To point a moral, or adorn a tale.

S. JOHNSON (*The Vanity of Human Wishes*).

#### 506. TO-MORROW

TO-MORROW !

That fatal mistress of the young, the lazy,  
 The coward, and the fool, condemned to lose  
 A useless life in waiting for to-morrow—  
 To gaze with longing eyes upon to-morrow,  
 Till interposing death destroys the prospect !  
 Strange ! that this general fraud from day to day  
 Should fill the world with wretches undetected.  
 The soldier, labouring through a winter's march,  
 Still sees to-morrow dressed in robes of triumph ;  
 Still to the lover's long-expecting arms  
 To-morrow brings the visionary bride.  
 But thou, too old to bear another cheat,  
 Learn that the present hour alone is man's.

S. JOHNSON (*Irene*).

#### 507. SHAKESPEARE AND JONSON

WHEN Learning's triumph o'er her barbarous foes  
 First reared the Stage, immortal Shakespeare rose ;  
 Each change of many-coloured life he drew,  
 Exhausted worlds, and then imagined new ;  
 Existence saw him spurn her bounded reign,  
 And panting Time toiled after him in vain.  
 His powerful strokes presiding Truth impressed,  
 And unresisted passion stormed the breast.

Then Jonson came, instructed from the school,  
 To please in method. and invent by rule ;

His studious patience and laborious art,  
 By regular approach assayed the heart.  
 Cold approbation gave the lingering bays,  
 For those who durst not censure, scarce could praise ;  
 A mortal born, he met the general doom,  
 But left, like Egypt's kings, a lasting tomb.

S. JOHNSON (*Drury Lane Prologue*, 1747).

#### 508. ON PARENT KNEES A NAKED NEW-BORN CHILD

ON parent knees, a naked new-born child,  
 Weeping thou sat'st while all around thee smiled :  
 So live, that sinking to thy life's last sleep,  
 Calm thou may'st smile, whilst all around thee weep.

SIR W. JONES.

#### 509. VENUS' RUNAWAY

BRAUTIES, have you seen this toy,  
 Callèd Love, a little boy,  
 Almost naked, wanton, blind ;  
 Cruel now, and then as kind ?  
 If he be amongst ye, say ?  
 He is Venus' runaway.

B. JONSON (*Mask*).

#### 510. COME, MY CELIA, LET US PROVE

COME, my Celia, let us prove,  
 While we can, the sports of love,  
 Time will not be ours for ever,  
 He, at length, our good will sever ;  
 Spend not then his gifts in vain ;  
 Suns that set may rise again :  
 But if once we lose this light,  
 'Tis with us perpetual night.  
 Why should we defer our joys ?  
 Fame and rumour are but toys.

Cannot we delude the eyes  
 Of a few poor household spies ?  
 Or his easier ears beguile,  
 Thus removed by our wile ?—  
 'Tis no sin love's fruits to steal ;  
 But the sweet thefts to reveal,  
 To be taken, to be seen,  
 These have crimes accounted  
 been.

B. JONSON (*Volpone*).

#### 511. 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 withered 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 (*The Forest*).

## 512. THAT WOMEN ARE BUT MEN'S SHADOWS

FOLLOW a shadow, it still flies you ;  
 Seem to fly it, it will pursue :  
 So court a mistress, she denies you ;  
 Let her alone, she will court you.  
 Say are not women truly, then,  
 Styled but the shadows of us men ?

B. JONSON (*The Forest*).

## 513. HAVE YOU SEEN BUT A BRIGHT LILY GROW

HAVE you seen but a bright lily grow,  
 Before rude hands have touched it ?  
 Have you marked but the fall o' the snow  
 Before the soil hath smutched it ?  
 Have you felt the wool of the beaver ?  
 Or swan's down ever ?  
 Or have smelt o' the bud o' the brier ?  
 Or the nard in the fire ?  
 Or have tasted the bag of the bee ?  
 O so white ! O so soft ! O so sweet is she !

B. JONSON (*A Celebration of Charis*).

## 514. IF I FREELY MAY DISCOVER

IF I freely may discover  
 What would please me in my lover,  
 I would have her fair and witty,  
 Savouring more of court than city ;  
 A little proud, but full of pity :  
 Light and humorous in her toying ;  
 Oft building hopes, and soon destroying ;  
 Long, but sweet, in the enjoying ;  
 Neither too easy, nor too hard :  
 All extremes I would have barred.

She should be allowed her passions,  
 So they were but used as fashions ;  
 Sometimes froward, and then frowning,  
 Sometimes sickish and then swooning,  
 Every fit with change still crowning.  
 Purely jealous I would have her,  
 Then only constant when I crave her :  
 'Tis a virtue should not save her.  
 Thus, nor her delicates would cloy me,  
 Neither her peevishness annoy me.

B. JONSON (*The Poetaster*).

515. IT IS NOT GROWING LIKE A TREE

It is not growing like a tree  
 In bulk, doth make men 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 (*A Pindaric Ode to the Memory  
 of Sir L. Carey and Sir H. Morison*).

516. THE KISS

<p>O THAT joy so soon should waste !          Or so sweet a bliss          As a kiss          Might not for ever last !          So sugared, so melting, so soft, so          delicious,          The dew that lies on roses,</p>	<p>When the morn herself discloses,          Is not so precious.          Oh, rather than I would it smother,          Were I to taste such another,          It should be my wishing          That I might die with kissing.          B. JONSON (<i>Cynthia's Revels</i>).</p>
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517. 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 wishèd 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 (*Cynthia's Revels*).

## 518. SHAKESPEARE

Soul of the age !

The applause, delight, the wonder of our stage,  
My Shakespeare, rise ! I will not lodge thee by  
Chaucer, or Spenser, or bid Beaumont lie  
A little further, to make thee a room :  
Thou art a monument without a tomb,  
And art alive still, while thy book doth live,  
And we have wits to read, and praise to give.

That I not mix thee so my brain excuses ;  
I mean, with great but disproportioned Muses.  
For, if I thought my judgement were of years,  
I should commit thee, surely, with thy peers.  
And tell how far thou didst our Lyly outshine  
Or sporting Kyd, or Marlowe's mighty line.

And though thou hadst small Latin and less Greek,  
From thence, to honour thee, I will not seek  
For names ; but call forth thundering Aeschylus,  
Euripides, and Sophocles to us,  
Pacuvius, Accius, him of Cordova dead  
To life again, to hear thy buskin tread  
And shake a stage ; or when thy sock was on,  
Leave thee alone, for the comparison  
Of all that insolent Greece or haughty Rome  
Sent forth ; or since did from their ashes come.

Triumph, my Britain ! Thou hast one to show  
To whom all scenes of Europe homage owe.  
He was not of an age, but for all time !  
And all the Muses still were in their prime,  
When, like Apollo, he came forth to warm  
Our ears, or, like a Mercury, to charm.  
Nature herself was proud of his designs,  
And joyed to wear the dressing of his lines,  
Which were so richly spun, and woven so fit  
As, since, she will vouchsafe no other wit.  
The merry Greek, tart Aristophanes,  
Neat Terence, witty Plautus, now not please ;  
But antiquated and deserted lie,  
As they were not of Nature's family.

Yet must I not give Nature all ! Thy art,  
My gentle Shakespeare, must enjoy a part.  
For though the Poet's matter Nature be  
His art doth give the fashion. And that he  
Who casts to write a living line, must sweat  
(Such as thine are), and strike the second heat

Upon the Muses' anvil, turn the same  
 (And himself with it), that he thinks to frame;  
 Or for the laurel he may gain a scorn!  
 For a good Poet's made as well as born;  
 And such wert thou! Look how the father's face  
 Lives in his issue; even so, the race  
 Of Shakespeare's mind and manners brightly shines  
 In his well-turnèd and true-filèd lines;  
 In each of which he seems to shake a lance  
 As brandished at the eyes of Ignorance.

Sweet Swan of Avon! what a sight it were  
 To see thee in our water yet appear,  
 And make those flights upon the banks of Thames  
 That so did take Eliza, and our James!

B. JONSON.

#### 519. STILL TO BE NEAT

STILL to be neat, still to be dressed,  
 As you were going to a feast;  
 Still to be powdered, still perfumed:  
 Lady, it is to be presumed,  
 Though art's hid causes are not found,  
 All is not sweet, all is not sound.

Give me a look, give me a face,  
 That makes simplicity a grace;  
 Robes loosely flowing, hair as free:  
 Such sweet neglect more taketh me,  
 Than all the adulteries of art;  
 They strike mine eyes, but not my heart.

B. JONSON (*The Silent Woman*).

#### 520. ON THE PORTRAIT OF SHAKESPEARE

THIS figure that thou here seest put,  
 It was for gentle Shakespeare cut,  
 Wherein the graver had a strife  
 With Nature, to outdo the life.

Oh, could he but have drawn his wit  
 As well in brass, as he has hit  
 His face, the print would then surpass  
 All that was ever writ in brass.

But, since he cannot, reader, look  
 Not on his picture, but his book.

B. JONSON (*In the First Folio of Shakespeare's Works, 1623*).

## 521. TRUTH

<p>TRUTH is the trial of itself,          And needs no other touch ;          And purer than the purest gold,          Refine it ne'er so much.</p>	<p>It is the life and light of love,          The sun that ever shineth,          And spirit of that special grace,          That faith and love defineth.</p>
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It is the warrant of the word,  
 That yields a scent so sweet,  
 As gives a power to faith to tread  
 All falsehood under feet.

B. JONSON.

## 522. AN EPITAPH ON SALATHIEL PAVY

(A CHILD OF QUEEN ELIZABETH'S CHAPEL)

WEEP with me, all you that read  
 This little story ;  
 And know, for whom a tear you shed,  
 Death's self is sorry.  
 'Twas a child, that so did thrive  
 In grace and feature,  
 As Heaven and Nature seemed to strive  
 Which owned the creature.

Years he numbered scarce thirteen,  
 When Fates turned cruel ;  
 Yet three filled zodiacs had he been  
 The stage's jewel ;  
 And did act, what now we moan,  
 Old men so duly,  
 As sooth, the Parcae thought him one,  
 He played so truly.

So, by error, to his fate  
 They all consented ;  
 But, viewing him since (alas, too late !),  
 They have repented ;  
 And have sought, to give new birth,  
 In baths to steep him :  
 But, being so much too good for earth ;  
 Heaven vows to keep him.

B. JONSON.

523. TO MY WORTHY AND HONOURED FRIEND  
 MASTER GEORGE CHAPMAN

WHOSE work could this be, Chapman, to refine  
 Old Hesiod's ore, and give it thus ! but thine,  
 Who hadst before wrought in rich Homer's mine.

What treasure hast thou brought us ! and what store  
 Still, still, dost thou arrive with at our shore,  
 To make thy honour, and our wealth the more !



If all the vulgar tongues that speak this day  
Were asked of thy discoveries, they must say,  
To the Greek coast thine only knew the way.

Such passage hast thou found, such returns made,  
As now of all men, it is called thy trade,  
And who make thither else, rob or invade. B. JONSON.

## 524. EPITAPH ON ELIZABETH L. H.

WOULDEST thou hear what man can say  
In a little? Reader, stay.

Underneath this stone doth lie  
As much beauty as could die;  
Which in life did harbour give  
To more virtue than doth live.

If at all she had a fault,  
Leave it buried in this vault.

One name was *Elizabeth*,  
The other, let it sleep with death:  
Fitter, where it died, to tell

Than that it lived at all. Farewell. B. JONSON.

## 525. LET US DRINK AND BE MERRY

LET us drink and be merry, dance, joke, and rejoice,  
With claret and sherry, theorbo and voice!

The changeable world to our joy is unjust,  
All treasure's uncertain,

Then down with your dust!

In frolics dispose your pounds, shillings, and pence,  
For we shall be nothing a hundred years hence.

Then why should we turmoil in cares and in fears,  
Turn all our tranquill'ty to sighs and to tears?

Let's eat, drink, and play till the worms do corrupt us,

'Tis certain, *Post mortem*

*Nulla voluptas.*

For health, wealth and beauty, wit, learning and sense,  
Must all come to nothing a hundred years hence.

T. JORDAN.

## 526. A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOR EVER

A THING of beauty is a joy for ever:

Its loveliness increases; it will never  
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing

Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing

A flowery band to bind us to the earth,

Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth

Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,  
 Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
 Made for our searching: yes, in spite of all,  
 Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
 From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,  
 Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon  
 For simple sheep; and such are daffodils  
 With the green world they live in; and clear rills  
 That for themselves a cooling covert make  
 'Gainst the hot season; the mid-forest brake,  
 Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms:  
 And such too is the grandeur of the dooms  
 We have imagined for the mighty dead;  
 All lovely tales that we have heard or read:  
 An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
 Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.  
 Nor do we merely feel these essences  
 For one short hour; no, even as the trees  
 That whisper round a temple become soon  
 Dear as the temple's self, so does the moon,  
 The passion poesy, glories infinite,  
 Haunt us till they become a cheering light  
 Unto our souls, and bound to us so fast,  
 That, whether there be shine, or gloom o'er-cast,  
 They always must be with us, or we die.

J. KEATS (*Endymion*).

527. LA BELLE DAME SANS MERCI

'AH, what can ail thee, wretched wight,  
 Alone and palely loitering?  
 The sedge is withered from the lake,  
 And no birds sing.  
 'Ah, what can ail thee, wretched wight,  
 So haggard and so woe-begone?  
 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 faery's child;  
 Her hair was long, her foot was light,  
 And her eyes were wild.  
 'I set her on my pacing steed,  
 And nothing else saw all day long;  
 For sideways would she lean, and sing  
 A faery's song.

'I made a garland for her head,  
And bracelets too, and fragrant zone;  
She looked at me as she did love,  
And made sweet moan.

'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 gazed, and sighèd deep,  
And there I shut her wild sad eyes—  
So kissed to sleep.

'And there we slumbered on the moss,  
And there I dreamed, ah woe betide,  
The latest dream I ever dreamed  
On the cold hill 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 gapèd wide,  
And I awoke and found me here  
On the cold hill side.

'And this is why I sojourn here  
Alone and palely loitering,  
Though the sedge is withered from the lake,  
And no birds sing.'

J. KEATS.

#### 528. SONNET

*Written on a blank page in Shakespeare's Poems, facing  
'A Lover's Complaint'*

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,  
Pillowed 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.

## 529. HAPPY IS ENGLAND

HAPPY is England! I could be content  
 To see no other verdure than its own;  
 To feel no other breezes than are blown  
 Through its tall woods with high romances blent:  
 Yet do I sometimes feel a languishment  
 For skies Italian, and an inward groan  
 To sit upon an Alp as on a throne,  
 And half forget what world or worldling meant.  
 Happy is England, sweet her artless daughters;  
 Enough their simple loveliness for me,  
 Enough their whitest arms in silence clinging:  
 Yet do I often warmly burn to see  
 Beauties of deeper glance, and hear their singing,  
 And float with them about the summer waters.

J. KEATS.

## 530. IN A DREAR-NIGHTED DECEMBER

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 hubblings 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 passed joy?  
 To know the change and feel it,  
 When there is none to heal it,  
 Nor numbed sense to steal it,  
 Was never said in rhyme.

J. KEATS.

## 531. ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN'S HOMER

MUCH have I travelled 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-browed 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  
 Looked at each other with a wild surmise—  
 Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

J. KEATS.

## 532. 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 thine happiness,—  
     That thou, light-wingèd 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  
 Cooled a long age in the deep-delvèd 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-stainèd 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,  
 Clustered 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 embalmèd 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 covered 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,  
 Called him soft names in many a musèd 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 self-same 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  
 Charmed 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.

### 533. SONNET TO SLEEP

O SOFT embalmer of the still midnight,  
 Shutting, with careful fingers and benign,  
 Our gloom-pleasèd eyes, embowered from the light,  
 Enshaded in forgetfulness divine :  
 O soothest Sleep ! if so it please thee, close  
 In midst of this thine hymn my willing eyes,  
 Or wait the 'Amen' ere thy poppy throws  
 Around my bed its lulling charities.

Then save me, or the passèd day will shine  
 Upon my pillow, breeding many woes,—  
 Save me from curious Conscience, that still lords  
 Its strength for darkness, burrowing like a mole;  
 Turn the key deftly in the oilèd wards,  
 And seal the hushèd Casket of my Soul.

J. KEATS.

534. SORROW

O SORROW,  
 Why dost borrow  
 The natural hue of health, from vermeil lips?—  
 To give maiden blushes  
 To the white rose bushes?  
 Or is 't thy dewy hand the daisy tips?

O Sorrow,  
 Why dost borrow  
 The lustrous passion from a falcon-eye?—  
 To give the glow-worm light?  
 Or, on a moonless night,  
 To tinge, on siren shores, the salt sea-spry?

O Sorrow,  
 Why dost borrow  
 The mellow ditties from a mourning tongue?—  
 To give at evening pale  
 Unto the nightingale,  
 That thou mayst listen the cold dews among?

O Sorrow,  
 Why dost borrow  
 Heart's lightness from the merriment of May?—  
 A lover would not tread  
 A cowslip on the head,  
 Though he should dance from eve till peep of day—  
 Nor any drooping flower  
 Held sacred for thy bower,  
 Wherever he may sport himself and play.

To Sorrow  
 I bade good-morrow,  
 And thought to leave her far away behind;  
 But cheerly, cheerly,  
 She loves me dearly;  
 She is so constant to me, and so kind:  
 I would deceive her  
 And so leave her,  
 But ah! she is so constant and so kind.

Come then, Sorrow !  
 Sweetest Sorrow !  
 Like an own babe I nurse thee on my breast :  
 I thought to leave thee  
 And deceive thee,  
 But now of all the world I love thee best.  
 There is not one,  
 No, no, not one  
 But thee to comfort a poor lonely maid ;  
 Thou art her mother,  
 And her brother,  
 Her playmate, and her wooer in the shade.

J. KEATS (*Endymion*).

### 535. 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 mossed 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'erbrimmed 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-reaped furrow sound asleep,  
 Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
 Spares the next swath and all its twinèd 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 ooziings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring ? Aye, where are they ?  
 Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—  
 While barrèd 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 shallows, 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 red-breast whistles from a garden-croft ;  
 And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

J. KEATS.



## 536. 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!  
 Dressed as though bold Robin Hood  
 Would, with his maid Marian,  
 Sup and howse from horn and can.  
 I have heard that on a day  
 Mine host's sign-board 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.

## 537. SONNET TO HOMER

STANDING aloof in giant ignorance,  
 Of thee I hear and of the Cyclades,  
 As one who sits ashore and longs perchance  
 To visit dolphin-coral in deep seas.  
 So thou wast blind;—but then the veil was rent,  
 For Jove uncurtained Heaven to let thee live,  
 And Neptune made for thee a spumy tent,  
 And Pan made sing for thee his forest-hive;  
 Aye on the shores of darkness there is light,  
 And precipices show untrodden green,  
 There is a budding morrow in midnight,  
 There is a triple sight in blindness keen;  
 Such seeing hadst thou, as it once befell  
 To Dian, Queen of Earth and Heaven and Hell.

J. KEATS.

## 538. ON THE GRASSHOPPER AND CRICKET

THE poetry of earth is never dead:  
 When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,  
 And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run  
 From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead  
 That is the grasshopper's—he takes the lead  
 In summer luxury,—he has never done  
 With his delights, for when tired out with fun  
 He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.  
 The poetry of earth is ceasing never:  
 On a lone winter evening, when the frost  
 Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills  
 The cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,  
 And seems to one in drowsiness half lost,  
 The grasshopper's among some grassy hills.

J. KEATS.

## 539. ODE ON A GRECIAN URN

THOU still unravished bride of quietness,  
 Thou foster-child of silence and slow time,  
 Sylvan historian, who canst thus express  
 A flowery tale more sweetly than our rhyme:  
 What leaf-fringed legend haunts about thy shape  
 Of deities or mortals, or of both,  
 In Tempe, or the dales of Arcady?  
 What men or gods are these? What maidens loath?  
 What mad pursuit? What struggle to escape?  
 What pipes and timbrels? What wild ecstasy?

Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard  
 Are sweeter; therefore, ye soft pipes, play on;  
 Not to the sensual ear, but, more endeared,  
 Pipe to the spirit ditties of no tone:  
 Fair youth, beneath the trees, thou canst not leave  
 Thy song, nor ever can those trees be bare;  
 Bold Lover, never, never canst thou kiss,  
 Though winning near the goal—yet, do not grieve;  
 She cannot fade, though thou hast not thy bliss,  
 For ever wilt thou love, and she be fair!

Ah, happy, happy boughs! that cannot shed  
 Your leaves, nor ever bid the Spring adieu;  
 And, happy melodist, unwearied,  
 For ever piping songs for ever new;  
 More happy love! more happy, happy love!  
 For ever warm and still to be enjoyed,  
 For ever panting, and for ever young;  
 All breathing human passion far above,  
 That leaves a heart high-sorrowful and cloyed,  
 A burning forehead, and a parching tongue.

Who are these coming to the sacrifice?  
 To what green altar, O mysterious priest,  
 Lead'st thou that heifer lowing at the skies,  
 And all her silken flanks with garlands drest?  
 What little town by river or sea-shore,  
 Or mountain-built with peaceful citadel,  
 Is emptied of this folk, this pious morn?  
 And, little town, thy streets for evermore  
 Will silent be; and not a soul, to tell  
 Why thou art desolate, can e'er return.

O Attic shape! Fair attitude! with brede  
 Of marble men and maidens overwrought,  
 With forest branches and the trodden weed;  
 Thou silent form! dost tease us out of thought

As doth eternity : cold Pastoral !

When old age shall this generation waste,  
 Thou shalt remain, in midst of other woe  
 Than ours, a friend to man, to whom thou say'st,  
 Beauty is truth, truth beauty,'—that is all  
 Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.

J. KEATS.

540. TO ONE WHO HAS BEEN LONG IN CITY PENT

To one who has been long in city pent,  
 'Tis very sweet to look into the fair  
 And open face of heaven,—to breathe a prayer  
 Full in the smile of the blue firmament.  
 Who is more happy, when, with heart's content,  
 Fatigued he sinks into some pleasant lair  
 Of wavy grass, and reads a debonair  
 And gentle tale of love and languishment ?  
 Returning home at evening, with one ear  
 Catching the notes of Philomel,—an eye  
 Watching the sailing cloudlet's bright career,  
 He mourns that day so soon has glided by :  
 E'en like the passage of an angel's tear  
 That falls through the clear ether silently.

J. KEATS.

541. WHEN I HAVE FEARS THAT I MAY CEASE TO BE

WHEN I have fears that I may cease to be  
 Before my pen has gleaned my teeming brain,  
 Before high-pilèd books, in charactery,  
 Hold like rich garners the full ripened grain ;  
 When I behold, upon the night's starred 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 faery 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.

## 542. MORNING

HUES of the rich unfolding morn,  
 That, ere the glorious sun be born,  
 By some soft touch invisible  
 Around his path are taught to swell ;—  
 Thou rustling breeze so fresh and gay,  
 That dancest forth at opening day,  
 And brushing by with joyous wing,  
 Wakenest each little leaf to sing ;—  
 Ye fragrant clouds of dewy steam,  
 By which deep grove and tangled stream  
 Pay, for soft rains in season given,  
 Their tribute to the genial heaven ;—

Oh ! timely happy, timely wise,  
 Hearts that with rising morn arise !  
 Eyes that the beam celestial view  
 Which evermore makes all things new !

J. KEBLE (*The Christian Year*).

## 543. SWEET NURSLINGS OF THE VERNAL SKIES.

SWEET nurslings of the vernal skies,  
 Bathed in soft airs, and fed with dew,  
 What more than magic in you lies,  
 To fill the heart's fond view ?

Relics ye are of Eden's bowers,  
 As pure, as fragrant, and as fair,  
 As when ye crowned the sunshine hours  
 Of happy wanderers there.

J. KEBLE (*The Christian Year*).

## 544. WE NEED NOT BID, FOR CLOISTERED CELL

WE need not bid, for cloistered cell,  
 Our neighbour and our work farewell,  
 Nor strive to wind ourselves too high  
 For sinful man beneath the sky :

The trivial round, the common task,  
 Would furnish all we ought to ask ;  
 Room to deny ourselves ; a road  
 To bring us, daily, nearer God.

Seek we no more ; content with these  
 Let present Rapture, Comfort, Ease,  
 As Heaven shall bid them, come and go :—  
 The secret this of Rest below.

J. KEBLE (*The Christian Year*).

## 545. WHO EVER SAW THE EARLIEST ROSE

WHO ever saw the earliest rose  
 First open her sweet breast?  
 Or, when the summer sun goes down,  
 The first soft star in evening's crown  
 Light up her gleaming crest?

But there's a sweeter flower than e'er  
 Blushed on the rosy spray—  
 A brighter star, a richer bloom  
 Than e'er did western heaven illumine  
 At close of summer day.

'Tis Love, the last best gift of Heaven;  
 Love gentle, holy, pure;  
 But tenderer than a dove's soft eye,  
 The searching sun, the open sky,  
 She never could endure.

J. KEBLE (*The Christian Year*).

## 546. SIC VITA

LIKE to the falling of a star,  
 Or as the flights of eagles are,—  
 Or like the fresh spring's gaudy hue,  
 Or silver drops of morning dew;  
 Or like a wind that chafes the flood,  
 Or bubbles which on water stood:  
 Even such is man, whose borrowed light  
 Is straight called in, and paid to night.  
 The wind blows out, the bubble dies;  
 The spring entombed in autumn lies;  
 The dew dries up, the star is shot;  
 The flight is past—and man forgot.

H. KING.

## 547. A DIRGE

WHAT is the existence of man's life,  
 But open war, or slumbered strife;  
 Where sickness to his sense presents  
 The combat of the elements;  
 And never feels a perfect peace  
 Till Death's cold hand signs his release?

It is a weary interlude—  
 Which doth short joys, long woes, include,  
 The world the stage, the prologue tears,  
 The acts vain hopes and varied fears;  
 The scene shuts up with loss of breath,  
 And leaves no epilogue but death.

H. KING.

## 548. AIRLY BEACON

AIRLY Beacon, Airly Beacon ; O the pleasant sight to see Shires and towns from Airly Beacon, While my love climbed up to me !	Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon ; O the happy hours we lay Deep in fern on Airly Beacon, Courting through the summer's day !
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Airly Beacon, Airly Beacon ;  
 O the weary haunt for me,  
 All alone on Airly Beacon,  
 With his baby on my knee !

C. KINGSLEY.

## 549. MY LITTLE DOLL

I ONCE had a sweet little doll, dears,  
 The prettiest doll in the world ;  
 Her cheeks were so red and so white, dears,  
 And her hair was so charmingly curled.  
 But I lost my poor little doll, dears,  
 As I played in the heath one day ;  
 And I cried for more than a week, dears,  
 But I never could find where she lay.

I found my poor little doll, dears,  
 As I played in the heath one day :  
 Folks say she is terribly changed, dears,  
 For her paint is all washed away,  
 And her arms trodden off by the cows, dears,  
 And her hair not the least bit curled :  
 Yet for old sakes' sake she is still, dears,  
 The prettiest doll in the world.

C. KINGSLEY.

## 550. A FAREWELL

To C. E. G.

My fairest child, I have no song to give you ;  
 No lark could pipe in skies so dull and grey ;  
 Yet, if you will, one quiet hint I'll leave you,  
 For every day.

I'll tell you how to sing a clearer carol  
 Than lark who hails the dawn or breezy down,  
 To earn yourself a purer poet's laurel  
 Than Shakespeare's crown.

Be good, sweet maid, and let who can be clever,  
 Do lovely things, not dream them, all day long ;  
 And so make Life and Death, and that For Ever,  
 One grand sweet song.

C. KINGSLEY.

## 551. 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 drownèd 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.

## 552. ON THE DEATH OF A CERTAIN JOURNAL

The *Christian Socialist*, started by the Council of Associates for  
 promotion of Co-operation.

So die, thou child of stormy dawn,  
 Thou winter flower, forlorn of nurse ;  
 Chilled early by the bigot's curse,  
 The pedant's frown, the worldling's yawn.

Fair death, to fall in teeming June,  
 When every seed which drops to earth  
 Takes root, and wins a second birth  
 From steaming shower and gleaming moon.

Fall warm, fall fast, thou mellow rain ;  
 Thou rain of God, make fat the land ;  
 That roots which parch in burning sand  
 May bud to flower and fruit again,

To grace, perchance, a fairer morn  
 In mightier lands beyond the sea,  
 While honour falls to such as we  
 From hearts of heroes yet unborn,  
 Who in the light of fuller day,  
 Of purer science, holier laws,  
 Bless us, faint heralds of their cause,  
 Dim beacons of their glorious way.

Failure? While tide-floods rise and boil  
 Round cape and isle, in port and cove,  
 Resistless, star-led from above:  
 What though our tiny wave recoil?

C. KINGSLEY.

### 553. THE BAD SQUIRE

THE merry brown hares came leaping  
 Over the crest of the hill,  
 Where the clover and corn lay sleeping  
 Under the moonlight still.

Leaping late and early,  
 Till under their bite and their tread  
 The swedes and the wheat and the barley  
 Lay cankered and trampled and dead.

A poacher's widow sat sighing  
 On the side of the white chalk bank,  
 Where under the gloomy fir-woods  
 One spot in the ley throve rank.

She watched a long tuft of clover,  
 Where rabbit or hare never ran;  
 For its black sour haulm covered over  
 The blood of a murdered man.

She thought of the dark plantation,  
 And the hares, and her husband's blood,  
 And the voice of her indignation  
 Rose up to the throne of God.

'I am long past wailing and whining—  
 I have wept too much in my life:  
 I've had twenty years of pining  
 As an English labourer's wife.

'A labourer in Christian England,  
 Where they cant of a Saviour's name,  
 And yet waste men's lives like the vermin's  
 For a few more brace of game.

'There's blood on your new foreign shrubs, squire,  
 There's blood on your pointer's feet;  
 There's blood on the game you sell, squire,  
 And there's blood on the game you eat.



- ' You have sold the labouring-man, squire,  
Body and soul to shame,  
To pay for your seat in the House, squire,  
And to pay for the feed of your game.
- ' You made him a poacher yourself, squire,  
When you'd give neither work nor meat,  
And your barley-fed hares robbed the garden  
At our starving children's feet ;
- ' When, packed in one reeking chamber,  
Man, maid, mother, and little ones lay ;  
While the rain pattered in on the rotting bride-bed,  
And the walls let in the day.
- ' When we lay in the burning fever  
On the mud of the cold clay floor,  
Till you parted us all for three months, squire,  
At the dreary workhouse door.
- ' We quarrelled like brutes, and who wonders ?  
What self-respect could we keep,  
Worse housed than your hacks and your pointers,  
Worse fed than your hogs and your sheep ?
- ' Our daughters with base-born babies  
Have wandered away in their shame,  
If your misses had slept, squire, where they did,  
Your misses might do the same.
- ' Can your lady patch hearts that are breaking  
With handfuls of coals and rice,  
Or by dealing out flannel and sheeting  
A little below cost price ?
- ' You may tire of the jail and the workhouse,  
And take to allotments and schools,  
But you've run up a debt that will never  
Be paid us by penny-club rules.
- ' In the season of shame and sadness,  
In the dark and dreary day,  
When scrofula, gout, and madness  
Are eating your race away ;
- ' When to kennels and liveried varlets  
You have cast your daughter's bread,  
And, worn out with liquor and harlots,  
Your heir at your feet lies dead ;
- ' When your youngest, the mealy-mouthed rector,  
Lets your soul rot asleep to the grave,  
You will find in your God the protector  
Of the freeman you fancied your slave.'

She looked at the tuft of clover,  
 And wept till her heart grew light ;  
 And at last, when her passion was over,  
 Went wandering into the night.

But the merry brown hares came leaping  
 Over the uplands still,  
 Where the clover and corn lay sleeping  
 On the side of the white chalk hill.

C. KINGSLEY.

#### 554. 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  
 Shows 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-easter !  
 Breast-high lies the scent,  
 On hy 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  
 Seaward 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.

## 555. 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.

## 556. A CHILD

A CHILD'S a plaything for an  
 hour ;  
 Its pretty tricks we try  
 For that or for a longer space ;  
 Then tire, and lay it by.

But I knew one, that to itself  
 All seasons could control ;  
 That would have mocked the  
 sense of pain  
 Out of a grievéd soul.

Thou straggler into loving arms,  
 Young climber up of knees,  
 When I forget thy thousand ways,  
 Then life and all shall cease.

C. LAMB.

## 557. FROM 'A FAREWELL TO TOBACCO'

FOR I must (nor let it grieve thee,  
 Friendliest of plants, that I must)  
 leave thee.  
 For thy sake, Tobacco, I  
 Would do anything but die,  
 And but seek to extend my days  
 Long enough to sing thy praise.  
 But as she who once hath been  
 A king's consort, is a queen  
 Ever after, nor will bate  
 Any tittle of her state,  
 Though a widow, or divorced,  
 So I, from thy converse forced,  
 The old name and style retain,  
 A right Katherine of Spain ;

And a seat, too, 'mongst the joys  
 Of the blest Tobacco boys ;  
 Where, though I, by sour physi-  
 cian,  
 Am debarred the full fruition  
 Of thy favours, I may catch  
 Some collateral sweets, and snatch  
 Sidelong odours, that give life  
 Like glances from a neighbour's  
 wife ;  
 And still live in the by-places  
 And the suburbs of thy graces ;  
 And in thy borders take delight,  
 An unconquered Canaanite.

C. LAMB.

## 558. 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 childhood.  
 Earth seemed 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.

#### 559. WRITTEN AT CAMBRIDGE (1819)

I WAS not trained in academic bowers,  
 And to those learnèd streams I nothing owe  
 Which copious from those twin fair founts do flow ;  
 Mine have been anything but studious hours.  
 Yet can I fancy, wandering 'mid thy towers,  
 Myself a nursling, Granta, of thy lap ;  
 My brow seems tightening with the doctor's cap,  
 And I walk *gownèd* ; feel unusual powers.  
 Strange forms of logic clothe my admiring speech,  
 Old Ramus' ghost is busy at my brain ;  
 And my skull teems with notions infinite.  
 Be still, ye reeds of Camus, while I teach  
 Truths, which transcend the searching Schoolmen's vein,  
 And half had staggered that stout Stagirite ! C. LAMB.

#### 560. A SONNET ON CHRISTIAN NAMES

*(Written in the album of Edith Southey)*

IN Christian world Mary the garland wears !  
 Rebecca sweetens on a Hebrew's ear ;  
 Quakers for pure Priscilla are more clear ;  
 And the light Gaul by amorous Ninon swears.  
 Among the lesser lights how Lucy shines !  
 What air of fragrance Rosamond throws around !  
 How like a hymn doth sweet Cecilia sound !  
 Of Marthas, and of Abigails, few lines  
 Have bragged in verse. Of coarsest household stuff  
 Should homely Joan be fashionèd. But can  
 You Barbara resist, or Marian ?  
 And is not Clare for love excuse enough ?  
 Yet, by my faith in numbers, I profess,  
 These all, than Saxon Edith, please me less. C. LAMB.

## 561. 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 flushed 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 trained 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 forewarning?

C. LAMB.

## 562. AH, WHAT AVAILS THE SCEPTRED RACE

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 of sighs  
     I consecrate to thee.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 563. AROUND THE CHILD

AROUND the child bend all the three  
Sweet Graces—Faith, Hope, Charity.  
Around the man bend other faces—  
Pride, Envy, Malice, are his Graces.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 564. CHILD OF A DAY

CHILD of a day, thou knowest not  
The tears that overflow thine urn,  
The gushing eyes that read thy lot,  
Nor, if thou knewest, couldst return!

And why the wish? the pure and blest  
Watch like thy mother o'er thy sleep  
O peaceful night! O envied rest!  
Thou wilt not ever see her weep.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 565. HOW MANY VOICES GAILY SING

How many voices gaily sing,  
'O happy morn, O happy spring  
Of life!' Meanwhile there comes o'er me  
A softer voice from Memory,  
And says, 'If loves and hopes have flown  
With years, think too what griefs are gone!'

W. S. LANDOR.

## 566. 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 is 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, whoe'er you be,  
 And, oh, pray too for me! W. S. LANDOR.

## 567. I STROVE WITH NONE

I STROVE with none; for none was worth my strife.  
 Nature I loved and, next to Nature, Art;  
 I warmed both hands before the fire of life;  
 It sinks, and I am ready to depart. W. S. LANDOR.

## 568. IN CLEMENTINA'S ARTLESS MIEN

IN Clementina's artless mien  
 Lucilla asks me what I see,  
 And are the roses of sixteen  
 Enough for me?  
 Lucilla asks, if that be all,  
 Have I not culled as sweet before:  
 Ah yes, Lucilla! and their fall  
 I still deplore.  
 I now behold another scene,  
 Where Pleasure beams with heaven's own light,  
 More pure, more constant, more serene,  
 And not less bright:  
 Faith, on whose breast the Loves repose,  
 Whose chain of flowers no force can sever.  
 And Modesty who, when she goes,  
 Is gone for ever. W. S. LANDOR.

## 569. IRELAND NEVER WAS CONTENTED

IRELAND never was contented.  
 Say you so? You are demented.  
 Ireland was contented when  
 All could use the sword and pen,  
 And when Tara rose so high  
 That her turrets split the sky,  
 And about her courts were seen  
 Liveried angels robed in green,  
 Wearing, by St. Patrick's bounty,  
 Emeralds big as half the county. W. S. LANDOR.

## 570. MY SERIOUS SON

My serious son ! I see thee look  
 First on the picture, then the book.  
 I catch the wish that thou couldst paint  
 The yearnings of the ecstatic saint.  
 Give it not up, my serious son !  
 Wish it again, and it is done.  
 Seldom will any fail who tries  
 With patient hand and steadfast eyes,  
 And woos the true with such pure sighs.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 571. NO DOUBT THY LITTLE BOSOM BEATS

No doubt thy little bosom beats  
 When sounds a wedding bell,  
 No doubt it pants to taste the sweets  
 That songs and stories tell.

Awhile in shade content to lie,  
 Prolong life's morning dream,  
 While others rise at the first fly  
 That glitters on the stream.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 572. NO, MY OWN LOVE OF OTHER YEARS

No, my own love of other years !  
 No, it must never be.  
 Much rests with you that yet endears,  
 Alas ! but what with me ?

Could those bright years o'er me revolve  
 So gay, o'er you so fair,  
 The pearl of life we would dissolve,  
 And each the cup might share.

You show that truth can ne'er decay,  
 Whatever fate befalls ;  
 I, that the myrtle and the bay  
 Shoot fresh on ruined walls.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 573. PROUD WORD YOU NEVER SPOKE

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.



## 574. THE MAID I LOVE NE'ER THOUGHT OF ME

THE maid I love ne'er thought of me  
 Amid the scenes of gaiety ;  
 But when her heart or mine sank low,  
 Ah, then it was no longer so.  
 From the slant palm she raised her head,  
 And kissed the cheek whence youth had fled.  
 Angels ! some future day for this,  
 Give her as sweet and pure a kiss.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 575. ROBERT BROWNING

THERE is delight in singing, though none hear  
 Beside the singer ; and there is delight  
 In praising, though 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.

## 576. TWENTY YEARS HENCE

TWENTY years hence my eyes may grow  
 If not quite dim, yet rather so,  
 Still yours from others they shall know  
 Twenty years hence.

Twenty years hence though it may hap  
 That I be called to take a nap  
 In a cool cell where thunder-clap  
 Was never heard,

There breathe but o'er my arch of grass  
 A not too sadly sighed *Alas*,  
 And I shall catch, ere you can pass,  
 That wingèd word.

W. S. LANDOR.

## 577. WELL I REMEMBER HOW YOU SMILED

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 Ianthe's name again. W. S. LANDOR.

## 578. WHY REPINE?

WHY, why repine, my pensive friend,  
 At pleasures slipt away?  
 Some the stern Fates will never lend,  
 And all refuse to stay.

I see the rainbow in the sky,  
 The dew upon the grass,  
 I see them, and I ask not why  
 They glimmer or they pass.

With folded arms I linger not  
 To call them back; 'twere vain;  
 In this, or in some other spot,  
 I know they'll shine again. W. S. LANDOR.

## 579. THE CHILD OF MISERY

COLD on Canadian hills or Minden's plain,  
 Perhaps that parent mourned her soldier slain;  
 Bent o'er her babe, her eye dissolved in dew,  
 The big drops mingling with the milk he drew  
 Gave the sad presage of his future years,—  
 The child of misery, baptized in tears.

J. LANGHORNE (*The Country Justice*).

## 580. UNCONSCIOUS CEREBRATION

SAY not that the past is dead.	Lending bias, force, and hue
Though the Autumn leaves are shed,	To the things we think and do.
Though the day's last flush has flown,	Strange! how aimless looks or words
Though the lute has lost its tone—	Sometimes wake forgotten chords,
Still within, unfelt, unseen,	Bidding dreams and memories leap
Lives the life that once has been;	From a long unbroken sleep.
With a silent power still	W. E. H. LECKY.
Guiding heart or brain or will,	

## 581. THE LIBERTY OF THE IMPRISONED ROYALIST

WHAT though I cannot see my King,  
 Either in 's person, or his coin,  
 Yet contemplation is a thing  
 Which renders what I have not, mine.  
 My King from me no adamant can part,  
 Whom I do wear engraven in my heart.

My soul 's free as the ambient air  
 Although my baser part 's immured ;  
 Whilst loyal thoughts do still repair  
 To accompany my solitude.  
 And though Rebellion do my body bind,  
 My King can only captivate my mind.

I am that bird, which they combine  
 Thus to deprive of liberty ;  
 Who, though they do my corpse confine  
 Yet, maugre hate, my soul is free :  
 And, though immured, yet can I chirp and sing,  
 ' Disgrace to rebels, glory to my King !'

SIR R. L'ESTRANGE.

## 582. TO CHLOE

SAY, in these latter days of ours,  
 When love exerts his usual powers,  
 What difference lies between us ?  
 In Chloe's self at once I boast,  
 What bards of every age might  
 toast,  
 A Muse, a Grace, a Venus.

In Chloe are a thousand charms,  
 Though envy call her sex to arms,  
 And giggling girls might flout  
 her.  
 The Muse inhabits in her mind,  
 A Venus in her form we find,  
 The Graces all about her.

R. LLOYD.

## 583. WHEN YOUTHFUL FAITH HATH FLED

WHEN youthful faith hath fled,  
 Of loving take thy leave ;  
 Be constant to the dead—  
 The dead cannot deceive.

Sweet modest flowers of spring,  
 How fleet your balmy day !  
 And man's brief year can bring  
 No secondary May,

No earthly burst again  
 Of gladness out of gloom,  
 Fond hope and vision vain,  
 Ungrateful to the tomb.

But 'tis an old belief  
 That on some solemn shore,  
 Beyond the sphere of grief,  
 Dear friends shall meet once  
 more.

Beyond the sphere of time,  
 And Sin and Fate's control,  
 Serene in endless prime  
 Of body and of soul.

That creed I fain would keep,  
 That hope I'll not forgo,  
 Eternal be the sleep  
 Unless to waken so.

J. G. LOCKHART

## 584. TO LOVE

Love guards the roses of thy lips,  
 And flies about them like a bee ;  
 If I approach he forward skips,  
 And if I kiss he stingeth me.

Love in thine eyes doth build his bower,  
 And sleeps within their pretty shine,  
 And if I look the boy will lower,  
 And from their orbs shoot shafts divine.

Love, let me cull her choicest flowers,  
 And pity me, and calm her eye,  
 Make soft her heart, dissolve her lowers,  
 Then will I praise thy deity.

T. LODGE.

## 585. LOVE, IN MY BOSOM, LIKE A BEE

Love, in my bosom, like a bee,  
 Doth suck his sweet.

Now with his wings he plays with  
 me,

Now with his feet.

Within mine eyes he makes his nest,  
 His bed amidst my tender breast,  
 My kisses are his daily feast ;  
 And yet he robs me of my rest !

Ah ! wanton, will ye ?

And if I sleep, then percheth he,  
 With pretty flight,  
 And makes his pillow of my knee  
 The livelong night.

Strike I my lute, he tunes the  
 string ;

He music plays if so I sing,  
 He lends me every lovely thing,  
 Yet cruel he my heart doth sting :  
 Whist, wanton, still ye !

Else I with roses every day

Will whip you hence,

And bind you, when you long to  
 play,

For your offence.

I'll shut mine eyes to keep you in ;

I'll make you fast it for your sin ;

I'll count your power not worth  
 a pin.

—Alas ! what hereby shall I win,  
 If he gainsay me ?

What if I beat the wanton boy  
 With many a rod ?

He will repay me with annoy  
 Because a god !

Then sit thou safely on my knee ;

Then let thy bower my bosom be ;

Lurk in mine eyes, I like of thee ;

O Cupid, so thou pity me.

Spare not, but play thee !

T. LODGE.

## 586. TO PHYLLIS

My Phyllis hath the morning sun,  
 At first to look upon her ;  
 And Phyllis hath morn-waking  
 birds

Her risings for to honour.

My Phyllis hath prime-feathered  
 flowers

That smile when she treads on  
 them ;

And Phyllis hath a gallant  
 flock

That leap, since she doth own  
 them.

But Phyllis hath so hard a heart,  
 (Alas that she should have it !)

As yields no mercy to desert,

Nor grace to those that crave it.

T. LODGE.

## 587. TO THE CUCKOO

HAIL, beauteous stranger of the grove!

Thou messenger of Spring!

Now Heaven repairs thy rural seat,

And woods thy welcome ring.

What time the daisy decks the green,

Thy certain voice we hear:

Hast thou a star to guide thy path,

Or mark the rolling year?

Delightful visitant! with thee

I hail the time of flowers,

And hear the sound of music sweet

From birds among the bowers.

The schoolboy, wandering through the wood

To pull the primrose gay,

Starts, the new voice of Spring to hear,

And imitates thy lay.

What time the pea puts on the bloom,

Thou fliest thy vocal vale,

An annual guest in other lands,

Another Spring to hail.

Sweet bird! thy bower is ever green,

Thy sky is ever clear;

Thou hast no sorrow in thy song,

No winter in thy year!

Oh, could I fly, I'd fly with thee!

We'd make, with joyful wing,

Our annual visit o'er the globe,

Companions of the Spring.

J. LOGAN.

## 588. THE WARDEN OF THE CINQUE PORTS

A MIST was driving down the British Channel,

The day was just begun,

And through the window-panes, on floor and panel,

Streamed the red autumn sun.

It glanced on flowing flag and rippling pennon,

And the white sails of ships;

And, from the frowning rampart, the black cannon

Hailed it with feverish lips.

Sandwich and Romney, Hastings, Hythe, and Dover

Were all alert that day,

To see the French war-steamers speeding over,

When the fog cleared away.

Sullen and silent, and like couchant lions,  
     Their cannon, through the night,  
 Holding their breath, had watched, in grim defiance,  
     The sea-coast opposite.  
 And now they roared at drum-beat from their stations  
     On every citadel ;  
 Each answering each, with morning salutations,  
     That all was well.  
 And down the coast, all taking up the burden,  
     Replied the distant forts,  
 As if to summon from his sleep the Warden  
     And Lord of the Cinque Ports.  
 Him shall no sunshine from the fields of azure,  
     No drum-beat from the wall,  
 No morning gun from the black fort's embrasure,  
     Awaken with its call !  
 No more, surveying with an eye impartial  
     The long line of the coast,  
 Shall the gaunt figure of the old Field Marshal  
     Be seen upon his post !  
 For in the night, unseen, a single warrior,  
     In sombre harness mailed,  
 Dreaded of man, and surnamed the Destroyer,  
     The rampart wall had scaled.  
 He passed into the chamber of the sleeper,  
     The dark and silent room,  
 And as he entered, darker grew, and deeper,  
     The silence and the gloom.  
 He did not pause to parley or dissemble,  
     But smote the Warden hoar ;  
 Ah ! what a blow ! that made all England tremble,  
     And groan from shore to shore.  
 Meanwhile, without, the surly cannon waited,  
     The sun rose bright o'erhead ;  
 Nothing in Nature's aspect intimated  
     That a great man was dead.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

### 589. 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 his 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 till 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 fether, that the soul  
Had broken and thrown away !

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 590. THE DAY IS DONE

COME, read to me some poem,  
 Some simple and heartfelt lay,  
 That shall soothe this restless feeling,  
 And banish the thoughts of day.

Not from the grand old masters,  
 Not from the bards sublime,  
 Whose distant footsteps echo  
 Through the corridors of time.

For, like strains of martial music,  
 Their mighty thoughts suggest  
 Life's endless toil and endeavour ;  
 And to-night I long for rest.

And the night shall be filled with music,  
 And the cares that infest the day  
 Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,  
 And as silently steal away.  
 H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 591. 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 towards 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 living poems,  
 And all the rest are dead.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 592. GOD'S ACRE

I LIKE that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls  
 The burial-ground God's Acre ! It is just ;  
 It consecrates each grave within its walls,  
 And breathes a benison o'er the sleeping dust.  
 God's Acre ! Yes, that blessed name imparts  
 Comfort to those who in the grave have sown  
 The seed that they had garnered in their hearts,  
 Their bread of life, alas ! no more their own.



Into its furrows shall we all be cast,  
 In the sure faith that we shall rise again  
 At the great harvest, when the archangel's blast  
 Shall winnow, like a fan, the chaff and grain.  
 Then shall the good stand in immortal bloom  
 In the fair gardens of that second birth,  
 And each bright blossom mingle its perfume  
 With that of flowers which never bloomed on earth.  
 With thy rude ploughshare, Death, turn up the sod,  
 And spread the furrow for the seed we sow ;  
 This is the field and Acre of our God,  
 This is the place where human harvests grow !

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

### 593. THE ARROW AND THE SONG

I SHOT an arrow into the air,  
 It fell to earth, I knew not where ;  
 For, so swiftly it flew, the sight  
 Could not follow it in its flight.  
 I breathed a song into the air,  
 It fell to earth, I knew not where ;  
 For who has sight so keen and strong  
 That it can follow the flight of song ?  
 Long, long afterward, in an oak,  
 I found the arrow, still unbroke ;  
 And the song, from beginning to end,  
 I found again in the heart of a friend.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

### 594. SONG OF THE SILENT LAND

INTO the Silent Land !  
 Ah ! who shall lead us thither ?  
 Clouds in the evening sky more  
 darkly gather,  
 And shattered wrecks lie thicker  
 on the strand.  
 Who leads us with a gentle hand  
 Thither, O thither,  
 Into the Silent Land ?  
 Into the Silent Land !  
 To you, ye boundless regions  
 Of all perfection ! Tender morning-  
 visions  
 Of beauteous souls ! The Future's  
 pledge and band !

Who in Life's battle firm doth  
 stand,  
 Shall bear Hope's tender blossoms  
 Into the Silent Land !

O Land ! O Land !  
 For all the broken-hearted  
 The mildest herald by our fate  
 allotted,  
 Beckons, and with inverted torch  
 doth stand  
 To lead us with a gentle hand  
 To the land of the great Departed,  
 Into the Silent Land !

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 595. THE WRECK OF THE HESPERUS

It was the schooner Hesperus,  
That sailed the wintry sea ;  
And the skipper had taken his little daughter,  
To bear him company.

Blue were her eyes as the fairy-flax,  
Her cheeks like the dawn of day,  
And her bosom white as the hawthorn buds  
That ope in the month of May.

The skipper he stood beside the helm,  
His pipe was in his mouth,  
And he watched how the veering flaw did blow  
The smoke now West, now South.

Then up and spake an old Sailør,  
Had sailed the Spanish Main,  
'I pray thee, put into yonder port,  
For I fear a hurricane.

'Last night, the moon had a golden ring,  
And to-night no moon we see !'  
The skipper he blew a whiff from his pipe,  
And a scornful laugh laughed he.

Colder and louder blew the wind,  
A gale from the North-east,  
The snow fell hissing in the brine,  
And the billows frothed like yeast.

Down came the storm, and smote amain  
The vessel in its strength ;  
She shuddered and paused, like a frightened steed,  
Then leaped her cable's length.

'Come hither ! come hither ! my little daughter,  
And do not tremble so ;  
For I can weather the roughest gale  
That ever wind did blow.'

He wrapped her warm in his seaman's coat  
Against the stinging blast ;  
He cut a rope from a broken spar,  
And bound her to the mast.

'O father ! I hear the church-bells ring,  
O say, what may it be ?'  
''Tis a fog-bell on a rock-bound coast !'—  
And he steered for the open sea.

'O father ! I hear the sound of guns,  
O say what may it be ?'  
'Some ship in distress, that cannot live  
In such an angry sea !'

'O father! I see a gleaming light,  
O say what may it be?'  
But the father answered never a word,  
A frozen corpse was he.  
Lashed to the helm, all stiff and stark,  
With his face turned to the skies,  
The lantern gleamed through the gleaming snow  
On his fixed and glassy eyes.  
Then the maiden clasped her hands and prayed  
That saved she might be;  
And she thought of Christ, who stilled the wave  
On the Lake of Galilee.  
And fast through the midnight dark and drear,  
Through the whistling sleet and snow,  
Like a sheeted ghost the vessel swept  
Towards the reef of Norman's Woe.  
And ever the fitful gusts between  
A sound came from the land;  
It was the sound of the trampling surf,  
On the rocks and the hard sea-sand.  
The breakers were right beneath her bows,  
She drifted a dreary wreck,  
And a whooping billow swept the crew  
Like icicles from her deck.  
She struck where the white and fleecy waves  
Looked soft as carded wool,  
But the cruel rocks they gored her side  
Like the horns of an angry bull.  
Her rattling shrouds, all sheathed in ice,  
With the masts went by the board;  
Like a vessel of glass she stove and sank,—  
Ho! ho! the breakers roared!  
At daybreak on the bleak sea-beach  
A fisherman stood aghast,  
To see the form of a maiden fair  
Lashed close to a drifting mast.  
The salt sea was frozen on her breast,  
The salt tears in her eyes;  
And he saw her hair, like the brown sea-weed,  
On the billows fall and rise.  
Such was the wreck of the Hesperus,  
In the midnight and the snow!  
Christ save us all from a death like this,  
On the reef of Norman's Woe.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 596. HAROUN AL RASCHID

ONE day, Haroun Al Raschid read  
A book wherein the poet said :—

‘Where are the kings, and where the rest  
Of those who once the world possessed ?

‘They’re gone with all their pomp and show,  
They’re gone the way that thou shalt go.

‘O thou who choosest for thy share  
The world, and what the world calls fair,

‘Take all that it can give or lend,  
But know that death is at the end !’

Haroun Al Raschid bowed his head :  
Tears fell upon the page he read.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 597. A PSALM OF LIFE

*What the heart of the young man said to the Psalmist*

TELL me not, in mournful numbers,  
Life is but an empty dream !  
For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
And things are not what they  
seem.

Life is real ! Life is earnest !  
And the grave is not its goal ;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
Is our destined end or way ;  
But to act, that each to-morrow  
Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,  
And our hearts, though stout  
and brave,  
Still, like muffled drums, are  
beating  
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world’s broad field of battle,  
In the bivouac of Life,  
Be not like dumb, driven cattle !  
Be a hero in the strife !

Trust no Future, howe’er pleasant !  
Let the dead Past bury its  
dead !  
Act,—act in the living Present !  
Heart within, and God o’erhead !

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sub-  
lime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of  
time ;—

Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o’er life’s solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate ;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 598. EXCELSIOR

THE shades of night were falling fast,  
 As through an Alpine village passed  
 A youth, who bore, 'mid snow and ice,  
 A banner with the strange device,  
     Excelsior !

His brow was sad ; his eye beneath  
 Flashed like a falchion from its sheath,  
 And like a silver clarion rung  
 The accents of that unknown tongue,  
     Excelsior !

In happy homes he saw the light  
 Of household fires gleam warm and bright ;  
 Above, the spectral glaciers shone,  
 And from his lips escaped a groan,  
     Excelsior !

'Try not the pass !' the old man said ;  
 'Dark lowers the tempest overhead,  
 The roaring torrent is deep and wide !'  
 And loud that clarion voice replied,  
     Excelsior !

'O stay,' the maiden said, 'and rest  
 Thy weary head upon this breast !'  
 A tear stood in his bright blue eye,  
 But still he answered, with a sigh,  
     Excelsior !

'Beware the pine-tree's withered branch !  
 Beware the awful avalanche !'  
 This was the peasant's last Good-night.  
 A voice replied, far up the height,  
     Excelsior !

At break of day, as heavenward  
 The pious monks of Saint Bernard  
 Uttered the oft-repeated prayer,  
 A voice cried through the startled air,  
     Excelsior !

A traveller, by the faithful hound,  
 Half-buried in the snow was found,  
 Still grasping in his hand of ice  
 That banner with the strange device,  
     Excelsior !

There in the twilight cold and grey,  
 Lifeless, but beautiful, he lay,  
 And from the sky, serene and far,  
 A voice fell, like a falling star,  
     Excelsior !

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 599. FROM 'RESIGNATION'

THERE is no flock, however watched and tended,  
But one dead lamb is there!

There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended,  
But has one vacant chair!

The air is full of farewells to the dying,  
And mournings for the dead;  
The heart of Rachel, for her children crying,  
Will not be comforted!

Let us be patient! These severe afflictions  
Not from the ground arise,  
But oftentimes celestial benedictions  
Assume this dark disguise.

She is not dead, the child of our affection,  
But gone unto that school  
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,  
And Christ himself doth rule.

In that great cloister's stillness and seclusion,  
By guardian angels led,  
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's pollution,  
She lives, whom we call dead.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

## 600. 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 accursèd 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.

601. FROM 'THE BUILDING OF THE SHIP'

THOU, too, sail on, O Ship of State !  
 Sail on, O Union, strong and great !  
 Humanity with all its fears,  
 With all the hopes of future years,  
 Is hanging breathless on thy fate !  
 We know what Master laid thy keel,  
 What Workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,  
 Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,  
 What anvils rang, what hammers beat,  
 In what a forge and what a heat  
 Were shaped the anchors of thy hope !  
 Fear not each sudden sound and shock,  
 'Tis of the wave and not the rock ;

'Tis but the flapping of the sail,  
 And not a rent made by the gale !  
 In spite of rock and tempest's roar,  
 In spite of false lights on the shore,  
 Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea !  
 Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,  
 Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,  
 Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,  
 Are all with thee,—are all with thee !

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

### 602. THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH

UNDER a spreading chestnut-tree  
 The village smithy stands ;  
 The smith, a mighty man is he,  
 With large and sinewy hands ;  
 And the muscles of his brawny  
 arms  
 Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and  
 long ;  
 His face is like the tan ;  
 His brow is wet with honest sweat,  
 He earns whate'er he can,  
 And looks the whole world in the  
 face,  
 For he owes not any man.

Week in, week out, from morn  
 till night,  
 You can hear his bellows blow ;  
 You can hear him swing his heavy  
 sledge,  
 With measured beat and slow,  
 Like a sexton ringing the village  
 bell,  
 When the evening sun is low.

And children coming home from  
 school  
 Look in at the open door ;  
 They love to see the flaming forge,  
 And hear the bellows roar,  
 And catch the burning sparks that  
 fly  
 Like chaff from a threshing-floor.

He goes on Sunday to the church,  
 And sits among his boys ;  
 He hears the parson pray and  
 preach,  
 He hears his daughter's voice  
 Singing in the village choir,  
 And it makes his heart re-  
 joice.

It sounds to him like her mother's  
 voice  
 Singing in Paradise !  
 He needs must think of her once  
 more,  
 How in the grave she lies ;  
 And with his hard, rough hand he  
 wipes  
 A tear out of his eyes.

Toiling,—rejoicing,—sorrowing,  
 Onward through life he goes ;  
 Each morning sees some task  
 begin,  
 Each evening sees it close ;  
 Something attempted, something  
 done,  
 Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my  
 worthy friend,  
 For the lesson thou hast taught !  
 Thus at the flaming forge of life  
 Our fortunes must be wrought ;  
 Thus on its sounding anvil shaped  
 Each burning deed and thought.

H. W. LONGFELLOW.



## 603. VICTOR GALBRAITH

UNDER the walls of Monterey  
At daybreak the bugles began to play,  
Victor Galbraith !  
In the mist of the morning damp and grey,  
These were the words they seemed to say,  
'Come forth to thy death,  
Victor Galbraith !'

Forth he came, with a martial tread ;  
Firm was his step, erect his head ;  
Victor Galbraith,  
He who so well the bugle played,  
Could not mistake the words it said :  
'Come forth to thy death,  
Victor Galbraith !'

He looked at the earth, he looked at the sky,  
He looked at the files of musketry,  
Victor Galbraith !  
And he said, with a steady voice and eye,  
'Take good aim ; I am ready to die !'  
Thus challenges death  
Victor Galbraith.

Twelve fiery tongues flashed straight and red,  
Six leaden balls on their errand sped ;  
Victor Galbraith  
Falls on the ground, but he is not dead ;  
His name was not stamped on those balls of lead,  
And they only scathe  
Victor Galbraith.

Three balls are in his breast and brain,  
But he rises out of the dust again,  
Victor Galbraith !  
The water he drinks has a bloody stain ;  
'O kill me, and put me out of my pain !'  
In his agony prayeth  
Victor Galbraith.

Forth dart once more those tongues of flame,  
And the bugler has died a death of shame,  
Victor Galbraith !  
His soul has gone back to whence it came,  
And no one answers to the name,  
When the Sergeant saith,  
'Victor Galbraith !'

Under the walls of Monterey  
 By night a bugle is heard to play,  
     Victor Galbraith !  
 Through the mist of the valley damp and grey  
 The sentinels hear the sound, and say,  
     ‘ That is the wraith  
     Of Victor Galbraith ! ’

H. W. LONGFELLOW.

604. TO AMARANTHA

*That she would dishevel her hair.*

AMARANTHA, sweet and fair,  
 Ah, braid no more that shining  
     hair !  
 As my curious hand or eye  
 Hovering round thee, let it fly.  
 Let it fly as unconfined  
 As its calm ravisher the wind,  
 Who hath left his darling, the east,  
 To wanton o'er that spicy nest.

Every tress must be confessed ;  
 But neatly tangled at the best ;  
 Like a clue of golden thread  
 Most excellently ravellèd.

Do not, then, wind up that light  
 In ribands, and o'ercloud in night,  
 Like the sun in 's early ray ;  
 But shake your head and scatter  
     day.

R. LOVELACE.

605. ON THE DEATH OF MRS. ELIZABETH FILMER

CHASTE as the air whither she 's  
     fled,  
 She, making her celestial bed  
 In her warm alabaster, lay  
 As cold as in this house of clay ;  
 Nor were the rooms unfit to feast,  
 Or circumscribe this angel-guest ;  
 The radiant gem was brightly set  
 In as divine a carcanet ;  
 For which the clearer was not  
     known,  
 Her mind, or her complexion ;  
 Such an everlasting grace,  
 Such a beatific face

Incloisters here this narrow floor  
 That possessed all hearts before.

Thus, although this marble must,  
 As all things, crumble into dust,  
 And though you find this fair-built  
     tomb

Ashes, as what lies in its womb ;  
 Yet her saint-like name shall  
     shine

A living glory to this shrine,  
 And her eternal fame be read,  
 When all but very virtue 's dead.

R. LOVELACE.

606. 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.

But I'll not sigh one blast or gale  
 To swell my sail,  
 Or pay a tear to 'suage  
 The foaming blue god's rage ;  
 For whether he will let me pass  
 Or no, I'm still as happy as I was.  
 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.

R. LOVELACE.

#### 607. GRATIANA DANCING, AND SINGING

SEE, with what constant motion,  
 Even, and glorious as the sun,  
 Gratiana steers that noble frame,  
 Soft as her breast, sweet as her voice,  
 That gave each winding law and poise,  
 And swifter than the wings of Fame.

She beat the happy pavèment—  
 By such a star made firmament,  
 Which now no more the roof envies !  
 But swells up high, with Atlas even,  
 Bearing the brighter, nobler heaven,  
 And, in her, all the deities.

Each step trod out a lover's thought,  
 And the ambitious hopes he brought  
 Chained to her brave feet with such arts,  
 Such sweet command and gentle awe,  
 As, when she ceased, we sighing saw  
 The floor lay paved with broken hearts.

So did she move, so did she sing,  
 Like the harmonious spheres that bring  
 Unto their rounds their music's aid ;  
 Which she performèd such a way  
 As all the enamoured world will say,  
 'The Graces danced, and Apollo played !'

R. LOVELACE.

## 608. TO LUCASTA, ON GOING TO THE WARS

<p>TELL me not, Sweet, I am unkind That from the nunnery Of thy chaste breast and quiet mind, To war and arms I fly.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Yet this inconstancy is such  
As you too shall adore;  
I could not love thee, Dear, so much,  
Loved I not Honour more.

R. LOVELACE.

## 609. TO ALTHEA FROM PRISON

<p>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 fettered to her eye, The birds that wanton in the air Know no such liberty.</p> <p>When flowing cups run swiftly round With no allaying Thames, Our careless heads with roses bound, 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.</p>	<p>When (like committed linnets) 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, Enlarged winds, that curl the flood Know no such liberty.</p> <p>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.</p>
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R. LOVELACE.

## 610. A MONUMENT IN ARCADIA

O YOU that dwell where shepherds reign,  
Arcadian youths, Arcadian maids,  
To pastoral pipe who danced the plain,  
Why pensive now beneath the shades?

Approach her virgin tomb, they cry,  
Behold the verse inscribed above:  
Once too in Arcady was I—  
Behold what dreams are life and love!

E. LOVIBOND.

## 611. THE COURTIN'

God makes sech nights, all white an' still  
 Fur 'z you can look or listen,  
 Moonshine an' snow on field an' hill,  
 All silence an' all glisten.

Zekle crep' up quite unbeknown  
 An' peeked in thru' the winder,  
 An' there sot Huldy all alone,  
 'Ith no onc nigh to hender.

A fireplace filled the room's one side  
 With half a cord o' wood in—  
 There warn't no stoves (tell comfort died)  
 To bake ye to a puddin'.

The wa'nut logs shot sparkles out  
 Towards the pootiest, bless her,  
 An' leetle flames danced all about  
 The chiny on the dresser.

Agin the chimbley crook-necks hung,  
 An' in amongst 'em rusted  
 The ole queen's-arm that gran'ther Young  
 Fetched back f'om Concord busted.

The very room, coz she was in,  
 Seemed warm f'om floor to ceilin',  
 An' she looked full ez rosy agin  
 Ez the apples she was peelin'.

'Twas kin' o' kingdom-come to look  
 On sech a blessed cretur,  
 A dogrose blushin' to a brook  
 Ain't modester nor sweeter.

He was six foot o' man, A 1,  
 Clear grit an' human natur',  
 None couldn't quicker pitch a ton  
 Nor dror a furrer straighter.

He'd sparked it with full twenty gals,  
 Hed squired 'em, danced 'em, druv 'em,  
 Fust this one, an' then thet, by spells—  
 All is, he couldn't love 'em.

But long o' her his veins 'ould run  
 All crinkly like curled maple,  
 The side she breshed felt full o' sun  
 Ez a south slope in Ap'il.

She thought no v'ice hed sech a swing  
 Ez hisn in the choir;  
 My! when he made Ole Hunderd ring,  
 She *knowed* the Lord was nigher.

An' she'd blush scarlit, right in prayer,  
 When her new meetin'-bunnet  
 Felt somehow thru' its crown a pair  
 O' blue eyes sot upon it.

That night, I tell ye, she looked *some!*  
 She seemed to 've got a new soul,  
 For she felt sartin-sure he'd come,  
 Down to her very shoe-sole.

She heered a foot, an' knowed it tu,  
 A-raspin' on the scraper,—  
 All ways to once her feelins flew  
 Like sparks in burnt-up paper.

He kin' o' l'itered on the mat,  
 Some doubtfle o' the sekle,  
 His heart kep' goin' pity-pat,  
 But hern went pity Zekle.

An' yit she gin her cheer a jerk  
 Ez though she wished him funder,  
 An' on her apples kep' to work,  
 Parin' away like murder.

'You want to see my Pa, I s'pose?'  
 'Wal—no—I come dasignin'—'  
 'To see my Ma? She's sprinklin' clo'es  
 Agin to-morrer's i'nin'.'

To say why gals act so or so,  
 Or don't, 'ould be presumin';  
 Mebbe to mean *yes* an' say *no*  
 Comes nateral to women.

He stood a spell on one foot fust,  
 Then stood a spell on t'other,  
 An' on which one he felt the wust  
 He couldn't ha' told ye nuther.

Says he, 'I'd better call agin;'  
 Says she, 'Think likely, Mister:.'  
 That last word pricked him like a pin,  
 An'—Wal, he up an' kissed her.

When Ma bimeby upon 'em slips,  
 Huldy sot pale ez ashes,  
 All kin' o' smily roun' the lips  
 An' teary roun' the lashes.

For she was jes' the quiet kind  
 Whose naturs never vary,  
 Like streams that keep a summer mind  
 Snow-hid in Jenooary.

The blood clost roun' her heart felt glued  
 Too tight for all expressin',  
 Tell mother see hōw metters stood,  
 An' gin 'em both her blessin'.

Then her red come back like the tide  
 Down to the Bay o' Fundy,  
 An' all I know is they was cried  
 In meetin' come nex' Sunday.

J. R. LOWELL.

## 612. GOD SENDS HIS TEACHERS UNTO EVERY AGE

GOD sends His teachers unto every age,  
 To every clime, and every race of men,  
 With revelations fitted to their growth  
 And shape of mind, nor gives the realm of Truth  
 Into the selfish rule of one sole race :  
 Therefore each form of worship that hath swayed  
 The life of man, and given it to grasp  
 The master-key of knowledge, reverence,  
 Infolds some germs of goodness and of right ;  
 Else never had the eager soul, which loathes  
 The slothful down of pampered ignorance,  
 Found in it even a moment's fitful rest.

J. R. LOWELL (*Rhoecus*).

## 613. HE SPOKE OF BURNS

HE spoke of Burns : men rude and rough  
 Pressed round to hear the praise of one  
 Whose heart was made of manly, simple stuff,  
 As homespun as their own.

And, when he read, they forward leaned,  
 Drinking, with thirsty hearts and ears,  
 His brook-like songs whom glory never weaned  
 From humble smiles and tears.

J. R. LOWELL (*An Incident in a Railroad Car*).

## 614. TO W. L. GARRISON

IN a small chamber, friendless and unseen,  
 Toiled o'er his types one poor, unlearned young man ;  
 The place was dark, unfurnished, and mean ;  
 Yet there the freedom of a race began.

O Truth ! O Freedom ! how are ye still born  
 In the rude stable, in the manger nursed !  
 What humble hands unbar those gates of morn  
 Through which the splendours of the New Day burst !

J. R. LOWELL.

## 615. FROM 'THE SHEPHERD OF KING ADMETUS'

MEN granted that his speech was wise,  
 But, when a glance they caught  
 Of his slim grace and woman's eyes,  
 They laughed, and called him good-for-naught.  
 Yet after he was dead and gone,  
 And e'en his memory dim,  
 Earth seemed more sweet to live upon,  
 More full of love, because of him.  
 And day by day more holy grew  
 Each spot where he had trod,  
 Till after-poets only knew  
 Their first-born brother as a God. J. R. LOWELL.

## 616. STANZAS ON FREEDOM

<p>MEN! whose boast it is that ye          Come of fathers brave and free,          If there breathe on earth a slave,          Are ye truly free and brave?          If ye do not feel the chain,          When it works a brother's pain,          Are ye not base slaves indeed,          Slaves unworthy to be freed?</p> <p>Women! who shall one day bear          Sons to breathe New England air,          If ye hear, without a blush,          Deeds to make the roused blood          rush          Like red lava through your veins,          For your sisters now in chains,—          Answer! are ye fit to be          Mothers of the brave and free?</p>	<p>Is true Freedom but to break          Fetters for our own dear sake,          And, with leathern hearts, forget          That we owe mankind a debt?          No! true freedom is to share          All the chains our brothers wear,          And, with heart and hand, to be          Earnest to make others free!          They are slaves who fear to speak          For the fallen and the weak;          They are slaves who will not choose          Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,          Rather than in silence shrink          From the truth they needs must          think;          They are slaves who dare not be          In the right with two or three.          J. R. LOWELL.</p>
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## 617. FROM 'THE PRESENT CRISIS'

ONCE to every man and nation comes the moment to decide,  
 In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side;  
 Some great cause, God's new Messiah, offering each the bloom or blight,  
 Parts the goats upon the left hand, and the sheep upon the right,  
 And the choice goes by for ever 'twixt that darkness and that light.

Careless seems the great Avenger; history's pages but record  
 One death-grapple in the darkness 'twixt old systems and the Word;  
 Truth for ever on the scaffold, Wrong for ever on the throne,—  
 Yet that scaffold sways the future, and, behind the dim unknown,  
 Standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own.  
 J. R. LOWELL.



## 618. SONG BY APELLES

CUPID and my Campaspe played  
 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 of 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. LYLY (*Campaspe*).

## 619. APOLLO'S SONG

My Daphne's hair is twisted gold,  
 Bright stars apiece her eyes do hold,  
 My Daphne's brow enthrones the Graces,  
 My Daphne's beauty stains all faces,  
 On Daphne's cheek grow rose and cherry,  
 On Daphne's lip a sweeter berry,  
 Daphne's snowy hand but touched does melt,  
 And then no heavenlier warmth is felt,  
 My Daphne's voice tunes all the spheres,  
 My Daphne's music charms all ears.  
 Fond am I thus to sing her praise ;  
 These glories now are turned to bays.

J. LYLY (*Midas*).

## 620. SAPPHO'S SONG

O CRUEL Love ! on thee I lay  
 My curse, which shall strike blind the day :  
 Never may sleep with velvet hand  
 Charm thine eyes with sacred wand ;  
 Thy jailors shall be hopes and fears ;  
 Thy prison-mates, groans, sighs, and tears ;  
 Thy play to wear out weary times,  
 Fantastic passions, vows, and rhymes ;  
 Thy bread be frowns, thy drink be gall,  
 Such as when you Phao call ;  
 The bed thou liest on be despair ;  
 Thy sleep, fond dreams ; thy dreams, long care ;  
 Hope (like thy fool) at thy bed's head,  
 Mock thee, till madness strike thee dead ;  
 As Phao, thou dost me, with thy proud eyes ;  
 In thee poor Sappho lives, for thee she dies.

J. LYLY (*Sappho and Phao*).

## 621. PAN'S SONG

PAN'S Syrinx was a girl indeed,  
 Though now she's turned into a reed.  
 From that dear reed Pan's pipe does come,  
 A pipe that strikes Apollo dumb ;  
 Nor flute, nor lute, nor gittern can  
 So chant it, as the pipe of Pan ;  
 Cross-gartered swains, and dairy girls,  
 With faces smug and round as pearls,  
 When Pan's shrill pipe begins to play,  
 With dancing wear out night and day :  
 The bag-pipe's drone his hum lays by,  
 When Pan sounds up his minstrelsy.  
 His minstrelsy ! O base !- This quill  
 Which at my mouth with wind I fill,  
 Puts me in mind, though her I miss,  
 That still my Syrinx' lips I kiss.

J. LYLY (*Midas*).

## 622. TO APOLLO

SING to Apollo, god of day,  
 Whose golden beams with morning play,  
 And make her eyes so brightly shine,  
 Aurora's face is called divine.  
 Sing to Phoebus, and that throne  
 Of diamonds which he sits upon ;

Io, paeans let us sing  
 To Physic's and to Poesy's King !

Crown all his altars with bright fire,  
 Laurels bind about his lyre,  
 A Daphnean coronet for his head,  
 The Muses dance about his bed ;  
 When on his ravishing lute he plays,  
 Strew his temple round with bays.

Io, paeans let us sing  
 To the glittering Delian King !

J. LYLY (*Midas*).

## 623. TRICO'S SONG

WHAT bird so sings, yet so does wail ?  
 Oh, 'tis the ravished Nightingale.  
 Jug, Jug, Jug, Jug, tereu, she cries,  
 And still her woes at midnight rise.  
 Brave prick-song ! who is't now we hear ?  
 None but the Lark so shrill and clear ;  
 How at heaven's gates she claps her wings,  
 The morn not waking till she sings.

Hark, hark, with what a pretty throat  
 Poor Robin red-breast tunes his note ;  
 Hark how the jolly cuckoos sing  
 Cuckoo, to welcome in the spring,  
 Cuckoo, to welcome in the spring.

J. LYLY (*Campaspe*).

624. THE OFFICER'S GRAVE

THERE is in the wide, lone sea,  
 A spot unmarked but holy ;  
 For there the gallant and the free  
 In his ocean-bed lies lowly.

Down, down, within the deep  
 That oft to triumph bore him,  
 He sleeps a sound and pleasant sleep  
 With the salt waves washing  
 o'er him.

He sleeps serene and safe  
 From tempest or from billow,  
 Where the storms that high above  
 him chafe

Scarce rock his peaceful pillow.  
 The sea and him in death  
 They did not dare to sever :  
 It was his home while he had  
 breath :

'Tis now his rest for ever !

Sleep on, thou mighty dead !  
 A glorious tomb they've found  
 thee,  
 The broad blue sky above thee  
 spread,  
 The boundless waters round thee.  
 No vulgar foot treads here,  
 No hand profane shall move  
 thee,  
 But gallant fleets shall proudly  
 steer,  
 And warriors shout, above thee.  
 And when the last trump shall  
 sound,  
 And tombs are asunder riven,  
 Like the morning sun from the  
 wave thou'lt bound  
 To rise and shine in heaven.

H. F. LYTE.

625. TELL ME, MY HEART, IF THIS BE LOVE

WHEN Delia on the plain appears,  
 Awed by a thousand tender fears,  
 I would approach, but dare not move :  
 Tell me, my heart, if this be Love.

Whene'er she speaks, my ravished ear  
 No other voice but hers can hear,  
 No other wit but hers approve :  
 Tell me, my heart, if this be Love.

If she some other youth commend,  
 Though I was once his fondest friend,  
 His instant enemy I prove :  
 Tell me, my heart, if this be Love.

When, fond of power, of beauty vain,  
 Her nets she spread for every swain,  
 I strove to hate, but vainly strove :  
 Tell me, my heart, if this be Love.

G. LYTTELTON, LORD LYTTELTON.

## 626. ABSENT YET PRESENT

As the flight of a river  
 That flows to the sea,  
 My soul rushes ever  
 In tumult to thee.  
 A twofold existence  
 I am where thou art ;  
 My heart in the distance  
 Beats close to thy heart.  
 Look up, I am near thee,  
 I gaze on thy face ;  
 I see thee, I hear thee,  
 I feel thine embrace.  
 As a magnet's control on  
 The steel it draws to it,  
 Is the charm of thy soul on  
 The thoughts that pursue it.  
 And absence but brightens  
 The eyes that I miss,  
 And custom but heightens  
 The spell of thy kiss.

It is not from duty,  
 Though that may be owed,—  
 It is not from beauty,  
 Though that be bestowed ;  
 But all that I care for,  
 And all that I know,  
 Is that, without wherefore,  
 I worship thee so.  
 Through granite it breaketh  
 A tree to the ray,  
 As a dreamer forsaketh  
 The grief of the day,  
 My soul in its fever  
 Escapes unto thee ;  
 O dream to the griever,  
 O light to the tree !  
 A twofold existence  
 I am where thou art ;  
 Hark, hear in the distance  
 The beat of my heart !

EDWARD BULWER, LORD LYTTON.

## 627. THE ARMADA

ATTEND, all ye who list to hear our noble England's praise ;  
 I tell of the thrice famous deeds she wrought in ancient days,  
 When that great fleet invincible against her bore in vain  
 The richest spoils of Mexico, the stoutest hearts of Spain.  
 It was about the lovely close of a warm summer day,  
 There came a gallant merchant-ship full sail to Plymouth Bay ;  
 Her crew had seen Castile's black fleet beyond Aurigny's isle,  
 At earliest twilight, on the waves lie heaving many a mile.  
 At sunrise she escaped their van, by God's especial grace,  
 And the tall *Pinta*, till the noon, had held her close in chase.  
 Forthwith a guard at every gun was placed along the wall ;  
 The beacon blazed upon the roof of Edgecumbe's lofty hall ;  
 Many a light fishing-bark put out to pry along the coast,  
 And with loose rein and bloody spur rode inland many a post.  
 With his white hair, unbonneted, the stout old sheriff comes ;  
 Behind him march the halberdiers ; before him sound the drums ;  
 His yeomen round the market cross make clear an ample space ;  
 For there behoves him to set up the standard of Her Grace.  
 And haughtily the trumpets peal, and gaily dance the bells,  
 As slow upon the labouring wind the royal blazon swells.  
 Look how the Lion of the sea lifts up his ancient crown,  
 And underneath his deadly paw treads the gay lilies down.

So stalked he when he turned to flight, on that famed Picard field,  
Bohemia's plume, and Genoa's bow, and Caesar's eagle shield.  
So glared he when at Agincourt in wrath he turned to bay,  
And crushed and torn beneath his claws the princely hunters lay.  
Ho! strike the flagstaff deep, sir Knight: ho! scatter flowers, fair  
    maids:

Ho! gunners, fire a loud salute: ho! gallants, draw your blades:  
Thou sun, shine on her joyously; ye breezes, waft her wide;  
Our glorious *semper eadem*, the banner of our pride.  
The freshening breeze of eve unfurled that banner's massy fold;  
The parting gleam of sunshine kissed that haughty scroll of gold:  
Night sank upon the dusky beach, and on the purple sea,  
Such night in England ne'er had been, nor e'er again shall be.  
From Eddystone to Berwick bounds, from Lynn to Milford Bay,  
That time of slumber was as bright and busy as the day;  
For swift to east and swift to west the ghastly war-flame spread,  
High on St. Michael's Mount it shone: it shone on Beachy Head.  
Far on the deep the Spaniard saw, along each southern shire,  
Cape beyond cape, in endless range, those twinkling points of fire.  
The fisher left his skiff to rock on Tamar's glittering waves:  
The rugged miners poured to war from Mendip's sunless caves:  
O'er Longleat's towers, o'er Cranbourne's oaks, the fiery herald flew  
And roused the shepherds of Stonehenge, the rangers of Beaulieu.  
Right sharp and quick the bells all night rang out from Bristol  
    town,

And ere the day three hundred horse had met on Clifton down;  
The sentinel on Whitehall gate looked forth into the night,  
And saw o'erhanging Richmond Hill that streak of blood-red light.  
Then bugle's note and cannon's roar the death-like silence broke,  
And with one start, and with one cry, the royal city woke.  
At once on all her stately gates arose the answering fires;  
At once the wild alarm clashed from all her reeling spires;  
From all the batteries of the Tower pealed loud the voice of fear;  
And all the thousand masts of Thames sent back a louder cheer:  
And from the farthest wards was heard the rush of hurrying feet,  
And the broad streams of pikes and flags rushed down each roaring  
    street;

And broader still became the blaze, and louder still the din,  
As fast from every village round the horse came spurring in:  
And eastward straight from wild Blackheath the warlike errand went,  
And roused in many an ancient hall the gallant squires of Kent.  
Southward from Surrey's pleasant hills flew those bright couriers  
    forth;

High on bleak Hampstead's swarthy moor they started for the north;  
And on, and on, without a pause, untired they bounded still:  
All night from tower to tower they sprang; they sprang from hill  
    to hill:

Till the proud Peak unfurled the flag o'er Darwin's rocky dales  
Till like volcanoes flared to heaven the stormy hills of Wales,

Till twelve fair counties saw the blaze on Malvern's lonely height,  
 Till streamed in crimson on the wind the Wrekin's crest of light,  
 Till broad and fierce the star came forth on Ely's stately fane,  
 And tower and hamlet rose in arms o'er all the boundless plain ;  
 Till Belvoir's lordly terraces the sign to Lincoln sent,  
 And Lincoln sped the message on o'er the wide vale of Trent ;  
 Till Skiddaw saw the fire that burned on Gaunt's embattled pile,  
 And the red glare on Skiddaw roused the burghers of Carlisle.

THOMAS, LORD MACAULAY.

628. FROM 'HORATIUS'

LARS PORSENA of Clusium

By the Nine Gods he swore  
 That the great house of Tarquin  
 Should suffer wrong no more.  
 By the Nine Gods he swore it,  
 And named a trysting day,  
 And bade his messengers ride  
 forth,  
 East and west and south and  
 north,  
 To summon his array.

Fast by the royal standard,  
 O'erlooking all the war,

Lars Porsena of Clusium  
 Sat in his ivory car.  
 By the right wheel rode Mamilius,  
 Prince of the Latian name ;  
 And by the left false Sextus,  
 That wrought the deed of shame.

But when the face of Sextus  
 Was seen among the foes,  
 A yell that rent the firmament  
 From all the town arose.  
 On the house-tops was no woman  
 But spat towards him and  
 hissed,  
 No child but screamed out curses,  
 And shook its little fist.

But the Consul's brow was sad,  
 And the Consul's speech was  
 low,  
 And darkly looked he at the wall,  
 And darkly at the foe.

'Their van will be upon us  
 Before the bridge goes down ;  
 And if they once may win the  
 bridge  
 What hope to save the town ?'

Then out spake brave Horatius,  
 The Captain of the Gate :  
 'To every man upon this earth  
 Death cometh soon or late.  
 And how can man die better  
 Than facing fearful odds,  
 For the ashes of his fathers,  
 And the temples of his Gods,

'And for the tender mother  
 Who dandled him to rest,  
 And for the wife who nurses  
 His baby at her breast,  
 And for the holy maidens  
 Who feed the eternal flame,  
 To save them from false Sextus  
 That wrought the deed of  
 shame ?

'Hew down the bridge, Sir Con-  
 sul,  
 With all the speed ye may ;  
 I, with two more to help me,  
 Will hold the foe in play.  
 In yon strait path a thousand  
 May well be stopped by three.  
 Now who will stand on either  
 hand,  
 And keep the bridge with  
 me ?'

Then out spake Spurius Lartius ;  
 A Ramnian proud was he :  
 ' Lo, I will stand at thy right hand,  
 And keep the bridge with thee.'  
 And out spake strong Herminius ;  
 Of Titian blood was he :  
 ' I will abide on thy left side,  
 And keep the bridge with thee.'  
 ' Horatius,' quoth the Consul,  
 ' As thou sayest, so let it be.'  
 And straight against that great  
 array  
 Forth went the dauntless Three.  
 For Romans in Rome's quarrel  
 Spared neither land nor gold,  
 Nor son nor wife, nor limb nor life,  
 In the brave days of old.

Then none was for a party ;  
 Then all were for the state ;  
 Then the great man helped the  
 poor,  
 And the poor man loved the  
 great ;  
 Then lands were fairly portioned ;  
 Then spoils were fairly sold :  
 The Romans were like brothers  
 In the brave days of old.

Now Roman is to Roman  
 More hateful than a foe,  
 And the Tribunes beard the high,  
 And the Fathers grind the low.  
 As we wax hot in faction,  
 In battle we wax cold ;  
 Wherefore men fight not as they  
 fought  
 In the brave days of old.

. . . . .

Was none who would be foremost  
 To lead such dire attack :  
 But those behind cried ' Forward !'  
 And those before cried ' Back !'  
 And backward now and forward  
 Wavers the deep array ;  
 And on the tossing sea of steel  
 To and fro the standards reel ;  
 And the victorious trumpet-peal  
 Dies fitfully away.

Yet one man for one moment  
 Stood out before the crowd ;  
 Well known was he to all the  
 Three,  
 And they gave him greeting  
 loud,  
 ' Now welcome, welcome, Sextus !  
 Now welcome to thy home !  
 Why dost thou stay and turn  
 away ?  
 Here lies the road to Rome.'  
 Thrice looked he at the city ;  
 Thrice looked he at the dead ;  
 And thrice came on in fury,  
 And thrice turned back in  
 dread :  
 And, white with fear and hatred,  
 Scowled at the narrow way  
 Where, wallowing in a pool of  
 blood,  
 The bravest Tuscans lay.  
 But meanwhile axe and lever  
 Have manfully been plied ;  
 And now the bridge hangs tottering  
 Above the boiling tide.  
 ' Come back, come back, Hora-  
 tius !'  
 Loud cried the Fathers all.  
 ' Back, Lartius ! back, Herminius !  
 Back, ere the ruin fall !'  
 Back darted Spurius Lartius ;  
 Herminius darted back :  
 And, as they passed, beneath their  
 feet  
 They felt the timbers crack.  
 But when they turned their faces,  
 And on the farther shore  
 Saw brave Horatius stand alone,  
 They would have crossed once  
 more.

But with a crash like thunder  
 Fell every loosened beam,  
 And, like a dam, the mighty wreck  
 Lay right athwart the stream ;  
 And a long shout of triumph  
 Rose from the walls of Rome,  
 As to the highest turret-tops  
 Was splashed the yellow foam.

And, like a horse unbroken  
 When first he feels the rein,  
 The furious river struggled hard,  
 And tossed his tawny mane,  
 And burst the curb, and bounded,  
 Rejoicing to be free,  
 And whirling down, in fierce  
 career,  
 Battlement, and plank, and pier,  
 Rushed headlong to the sea.

Alone stood brave Horatius,  
 But constant still in mind,  
 Thrice thirty thousand foes before,  
 And the broad flood behind.  
 'Down with him!' cried false  
 Sextus,  
 With a smile on his pale face.  
 'Now yield thee,' cried Lars Por-  
 sena,  
 'Now yield thee to our grace.'

Round turned he, as not deigning  
 Those craven ranks to see;  
 Naught spake he to Lars Porsena,  
 To Sextus naught spake he;  
 But he saw on Palatinus  
 The white porch of his home;  
 And he spake to the noble river  
 That rolls by the towers of  
 Rome.

'O Tiber! father Tiber!  
 To whom the Romans pray,  
 A Roman's life, a Roman's arms,  
 Take thou in charge this day!  
 So he spake, and speaking sheathed  
 The good sword by his side.  
 And with his harness on his back,  
 Plunged headlong in the tide.

No sound of joy or sorrow  
 Was heard from either bank;  
 But friends and foes in dumb  
 surprise,  
 With parted lips and straining  
 eyes,  
 Stood gazing where he sank;

And when above the surges  
 They saw his crest appear,  
 All Rome sent forth a rapturous cry  
 And even the ranks of Tuscany  
 Could scarce forbear to cheer.

'Curse on him!' quoth false Sextus;  
 'Will not the villain drown?  
 But for this stay, ere close of day  
 We should have sacked the  
 town.'  
 'Heaven help him,' quoth Lars  
 Porsena,  
 'And bring him safe to shore;  
 For such a gallant feat of arms  
 Was never seen before.'

And now he feels the bottom;  
 Now on dry earth he stands;  
 Now round him throng the Fathers  
 To press his gory hands;  
 And now, with shouts and clapping,  
 And noise of weeping loud,  
 He enters through the River-Gate,  
 Borne by the joyous crowd.

When the oldest cask is opened,  
 And the largest lamp is lit;  
 When the chestnuts glow in the  
 embers,  
 And the kid turns on the spit;  
 When young and old in circle  
 Around the firebrands close;  
 When the girls are weaving  
 baskets,  
 And the lads are shaping bows;  
 When the goodman mends his  
 armour,  
 And trims his helmet's plume;  
 When the goodwife's shuttle  
 merrily  
 Goes flashing through the loom;  
 With weeping and with laughter  
 Still is the story told,  
 How well Horatius kept the bridge  
 In the brave days of old.

LORD MACAULAY.



## 629. 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.

## 630. BABY

WHERE did you come from, baby dear?  
 Out of the everywhere into here.  
 Where did you get those eyes so blue?  
 Out of the sky as I came through.  
 What makes the light in them sparkle and spin?  
 Some of the starry spikes left in.  
 Where did you get that little tear?  
 I found it waiting when I got here.  
 What makes your forehead so smooth and high?  
 A soft hand stroked it as I went by.  
 What makes your cheek like a warm white rose?  
 I saw something better than any one knows.  
 Whence that three-cornered smile of bliss?  
 Three angels gave me at once a kiss.  
 Where did you get this pearly ear?  
 God spoke, and it came out to hear.  
 Where did you get those arms and hands?  
 Love made itself into bonds and bands.  
 Feet, whence did you come, you darling things?  
 From the same box as the cherubs' wings.  
 How did they all just come to be you?  
 God thought about me, and so I grew.  
 But how did you come to us, you dear?  
 God thought about you, and so I am here. G. MACDONALD.

## 631. LOVE NEW AND OLD

AND were they not the happy days  
 When Love and I were young,  
 When earth was robed in heavenly light,  
 And all creation sung ?  
 When gazing in my true love's face,  
 Through greenwood alleys lone,  
 I guessed the secrets of her heart,  
 By whispers of mine own.  
 And are they not the happy days  
 When Love and I are old,  
 And silver evening has replaced  
 A morn and noon of gold ?  
 Love stood alone mid youthful joy,  
 But now by sorrow tried,  
 It sits and calmly looks to heaven  
 With angels at its side.

C. MACKAY.

## 632. 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 has 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 the 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 forbore 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 handiwork!'  
 And the red sparks lit the air;  
 'Not alone for the blade was 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 stanch 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.

## 633. 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  
 Where'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 the 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).

## 634. THE BIRKS OF ENDERMAY

<p>THE smiling morn, the breathing            spring,        Invite the tuneful birds to sing ;        And, while they warble from each            spray,        Love meets the universal lay.        Let us, Amanda, timely wise,        Like them, improve the hour that            flies ;        And in soft raptures waste the day,        Among the shades of Endermay.</p>	<p>For soon the winter of the year,        And age, life's winter, will appear ;        At this thy living bloom must            fade,        As that will strip the verdant            shade.        Our taste of pleasure then is o'er,        The feathered songsters love no            more ;        And when they droop and we decay,        Adieu the shades of Endermay !</p>
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D. MALLET.

## 635. DARK ROSALEEN

O my Dark Rosaleen,  
 Do not sigh, do not weep !  
 The priests are on the ocean green,  
     They march along the deep.  
 There 's wine from the royal Pope  
     Upon the ocean green ;  
 And Spanish ale shall give you hope,  
     My Dark Rosaleen !  
     My own Rosaleen !  
 Shall glad your heart, shall give you hope,  
 Shall give you health, and help, and hope,  
     My Dark Rosaleen !

Over hills, and through dales,  
Have I roamed for your sake ;  
All yesterday I sailed with sails  
On river and on lake.  
The Erne, at its highest flood,  
I dashed across unseen,  
For there was lightning in my blood,  
My Dark Rosaleen !  
My own Rosaleen !  
Oh, there was lightning in my blood,  
Red lightning lightened through my blood,  
My Dark Rosaleen !

All day long, in unrest,  
To and fro, do I move.  
The very soul within my breast  
Is wasted for you, love !  
The heart in my bosom faints  
To think of you, my Queen,  
My life of life, my saint of saints,  
My Dark Rosaleen !  
My own Rosaleen !  
To hear your sweet and sad complaints,  
My life, my love, my saint of saints,  
My Dark Rosaleen !

Woe and pain, pain and woe,  
Are my lot, night and noon,  
To see your bright face clouded so,  
Like to the mournful moon.  
But yet will I rear your throne  
Again in golden sheen ;  
'Tis you shall reign, shall reign alone,  
My Dark Rosaleen !  
My own Rosaleen !  
'Tis you shall have the golden throne,  
'Tis you shall reign, and reign alone,  
My Dark Rosaleen !

Over dews, over sands,  
Will I fly, for your weal :  
Your holy delicate white hands  
Shall girdle me with steel.  
At home, in your emerald bowers,  
From morning's dawn till e'en,  
You'll pray for me, my flower of flowers,  
My Dark Rosaleen !  
My fond Rosaleen !  
You'll think of me through daylight hours,  
My virgin flower, my flower of flowers,  
My Dark Rosaleen !

I could scale the blue air,  
 I could plough the high hills,  
 Oh, I could kneel all night in prayer,  
 To heal your many ills !  
 And one beamy smile from you  
 Would float like light between  
 My toils and me, my own, my true,  
 My Dark Rosaleen !  
 My fond Rosaleen !  
 Would give me life and soul anew,  
 A second life, a soul anew,  
 My Dark Rosaleen !  
 Oh, the Erne shall run red,  
 With redundance of blood,  
 The earth shall rock beneath our tread,  
 And flames wrap hill and wood,  
 And gun-peal and slogan-cry  
 Wake many a glen serene,  
 Ere you shall fade, ere you shall die,  
 My Dark Rosaleen !  
 My own Rosaleen !  
 The Judgement Hour must first be nigh,  
 Ere you can fade, ere you can die,  
 My Dark Rosaleen !

J. C. MANGAN.

## 636. THE NAMELESS ONE

ROLL forth, my song, like the rushing river,  
 That sweeps along to the mighty sea ;  
 God will inspire me while I deliver  
 My soul of thee !  
 Tell thou the world, when my bones lie whitening  
 Amid the last homes of youth and old,  
 That once there was one whose veins ran lightning  
 No eye beheld.  
 Tell how his boyhood was one drear night-hour,  
 How shone for him, through his grief and gloom,  
 No star of all heaven sends to light our  
 Path to the tomb.  
 Roll on, my song, and to after ages  
 Tell how, disdaining all earth can give,  
 He would have taught men, from wisdom's pages,  
 The way to live.  
 And tell how trampled, derided, hated,  
 And worn by weakness, disease, and wrong,  
 He fled for shelter to God, who mated  
 His soul with song—

With song which alway, sublime or vapid,  
 Flowed like a rill in the morning-beam,  
 Perchance not deep, but intense and rapid—  
 A mountain stream.

Tell how this Nameless, condemned for years long  
 To herd with demons from hell beneath,  
 Saw things that made him, with groans and tears, long  
 For even death.

Go on to tell how, with genius wasted,  
 Betrayed in friendship, befooled in love,  
 With spirit shipwrecked, and young hopes blasted,  
 He still, still strove ;

Till spent with toil, dreeing death for others,  
 And some whose hands should have wrought for him  
 (If children live not for sires and mothers),  
 His mind grew dim ;

And he fell far through that pit abysmal,  
 The gulf and grave of Maginn and Burns,  
 And pawned his soul for the devil's dismal  
 Stock of returns ;

But yet redeemed it in days of darkness,  
 And shapes and signs of the final wrath,  
 When death, in hideous and ghastly starkness,  
 Stood on his path.

And tell how now, amid wreck and sorrow,  
 And want, and sickness, and houseless nights,  
 He bides in calmness the silent morrow,  
 That no ray lights.

And lives he still, then ? Yes ! Old and hoary  
 At thirty-nine, from despair and woe,  
 He lives, enduring what future story  
 Will never know.

Him grant a grave to, ye pitying noble,  
 Deep in your bosoms : there let him dwell !  
 He, too, had tears for all souls in trouble  
 Here, and in hell.

J. C. MANGAN.

### 637. FAUSTUS' DYING SOLILOQUY

АН, Faustus,

Now hast thou but one bare hour to live,  
 And then thou must be damned perpetually !  
 Stand still, ybu ever-moving spheres of heaven,  
 That time may cease, and midnight never come ;  
 Fair Nature's eye, rise, rise again, and make  
 Perpetual day ; or let this hour be but  
 A year, a month, a week, a natural day,

That Faustus may repent and save his soul!

*O lente, lente currite, noctis equi!*

The stars move still, time runs, the clock will strike,

The devil will come, and Faustus must be damned.

O, I'll leap up to my God!—Who pulls me down?—

See, see, where Christ's blood streams in the firmament!

One drop would save my soul, half a drop: ah, my Christ!—

Ah, rend not my heart for naming of my Christ!

Yet will I call on Him: O, spare me, Lucifer!—

Where is it now? 'tis gone: and see, where God

Stretcheth out His arm, and bends His ireful brows!

Mountains and hills, come, come, and fall on me,

And hide me from the heavy wrath of God!

No, no!

Then will I headlong run into the earth:

Earth, gape! O, no, it will not harbour me

You stars that reigned at my nativity,

Whose influence hath allotted death and hell,

Now draw up Faustus, like a foggy mist,

Into the entrails of yon labouring clouds,

That, when you vomit forth into the air,

My limbs may issue from your smoky mouths,

So that my soul may but ascend to heaven!

C. MARLOWE (*Faustus*).

### 638. 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.

And I will make thee beds of roses  
And a thousand fragrant posies,  
A cap of flowers, and a kirtle  
Embroidered 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.



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.<sup>1</sup>

639. WHO EVER LOVED, THAT LOVED NOT AT  
 FIRST SIGHT?

It lies not in our power to love or hate,  
 For will in us is overruled by fate.  
 When two are stripped, long ere the course begin,  
 We wish that one should lose, the other win;  
 And one especially do we affect  
 Of two gold ingots, like in each respect:  
 The reason no man knows; let it suffice  
 What we behold is censured by our eyes.  
 Where both deliberate, the love is slight:  
 Who ever loved, that loved not at first sight?

C. MARLOWE (*Hero and Leander*).

640. HELEN

Was this the face that launched a thousand ships,  
 And burned the topless towers of Ilium?—  
 Sweet Helen, make me immortal with a kiss!—  
 Her lips suck forth my soul: see where it flees!—  
 Come, Helen, come, give me my soul again.  
 Here will I dwell, for heaven is in these lips,  
 And all is dross that is not Helena.  
 I will be Paris, and for love of thee,  
 Instead of Troy, shall Wittenberg be sacked,  
 And I will combat with weak Menelaus,  
 And wear thy colours on my plumed crest;  
 Yes, I will wound Achilles in the heel,  
 And then return to Helen for a kiss.  
 Oh, thou art fairer than the evening air  
 Clad in the beauty of a thousand stars;  
 Brighter art thou than flaming Jupiter  
 When he appeared to hapless Semele;  
 More lovely than the monarch of the sky  
 In wanton Arethusa's azured arms;  
 And none but thou shalt be my paramour!

C. MARLOWE (*Faustus*).

<sup>1</sup> See Raleigh's reply, No. 771.

## 641. TO DETRACTION

FOUL canker of fair virtuous action,  
 Vile blaster of the freshest blooms on earth,  
 Envy's abhorred child, Detraction,  
 I here expose, to thy all-tainting breath,  
     The issue of my brain: snarl, rail, bark, bite,  
     Know that my spirit scorns Detraction's spite.

My spirit is not puffed up with fat fume  
 Of slimy ale, nor Bacchus' heating grape.  
 My mind disdains the dungy muddy scum  
 Of abject thoughts and Envy's raging hate.  
     True judgement slight regards opinion;  
     A sprightly wit disdains Detraction.

J. MARSTON.

## 642. TO EVERLASTING OBLIVION

THOU mighty gulf, insatiate cormorant!  
 Deride me not, though I seem petulant  
     To fall into thy chops. Let others pray  
     For ever their fair poems flourish may,  
 But as for me, hungry Oblivion  
 Devour me quick, accept my orison,  
     My earnest prayers which do importune thee,  
     With gloomy shade of thy still empery,  
     To veil both me and my rude poesy.  
 Far worthier lines, in silence of thy state,  
 Do sleep securely, free from love or hate!  
 From which this living ne'er can be exempt,  
 But whilst it breathes will hate and fury tempt:  
 Then close his eyes with thy all-dimming hand,  
 Which not right glorious actions can withstand.  
 Peace, hateful tongues, I now in silence pace,  
 Unless some hound do wake me from my place,  
     I with this sharp, yet well-meant poesy,  
     Will sleep secure, right free from injury  
     Of cankered hate, or rankest villany.

J. MARSTON.

## 643. THOUGHTS IN A GARDEN

How vainly men themselves amaze  
 To win the palm, the oak, or bays,  
 And their incessant labours see  
 Crowned from some single herb or tree,  
 Whose short and narrow-vergèd 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 hers exceed !  
Fair trees ! wheresoe'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, that 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 combs 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 walked 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, the industrious bee  
 Computes its time as well as we.  
 How could such sweet and wholesome hours  
 Be reckoned but with herbs and flowers?

A. MARVELL.

#### 644. AN 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  
 Urgèd his active star.

And like the three-forked light-  
 ning, first  
 Breaking the clouds where it was  
 nursed,  
 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 reservèd 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 com-  
 plain,  
 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 Car'sbrook's narrow case ;

That thence the royal actor borne  
 The tragic scaffold might adorn :  
 While round the armèd 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 called the Gods, with vulgar  
 spite,

To vindicate his helpless right ;  
 But bowed his comely head  
 Down, as upon a bed.

This was that memorable hour  
 Which first assured the forcèd  
 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, con-  
 fessed

How good he is, how just,  
 And fit for highest trust.

Nor yet grown stiffer with com-  
 mand,

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 killed, 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, a Hannibal!

And to all states not free  
 Shall climacteric be.

The Pict no shelter now shall  
 find

Within his parti-coloured mind,  
 But (from his 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.

## 645. THE NYMPH'S GRIEF FOR HER FAWN

THE wanton troopers, riding by,  
 Have shot my fawn, and it will die!

I have a garden of my own,  
 But so with roses overgrown,  
 And lilies, that you would it guess  
 To be a little wilderness;  
 And all the spring-time of the year  
 It only lovèd to be there.  
 Among the beds of lilies I  
 Have sought it oft, where it should  
 lie;  
 Yet could not, till itself would rise,  
 Find it, although before mine eyes;

For in the flaxen lilies' shade,  
 It like a bank of lilies laid.  
 Upon the roses it would feed,  
 Until its lips e'en seem'd to bleed;  
 And then to me 'twould boldly  
 trip,  
 And print those roses on my lip.  
 But all its chief delight was still  
 On roses thus itself to fill;  
 And its pure virgin limbs to fold  
 In whitest sheets of lilies cold.  
 Had it lived long, it would have  
 been  
 Lilies without, roses within.  
 A. MARVELL.

## 646. WHERE THE REMOTE BERMUDAS RIDE

WHERE the remote Bermudas ride  
 In the ocean's bosom unespied,  
 From a small boat that rowed along  
 The listening winds received this song.

What should we do but sing His praise  
 That led us through the watery maze  
 Unto an isle so long unknown,  
 And yet far kinder than our own?  
 Where He the huge sea-monsters wracks,  
 That lift the deep upon their backs,  
 He lands us on a grassy stage,  
 Safe from the storms, and prelates' 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.

## 647. THE BLUSHING ROSE AND PURPLE FLOWER

THE blushing rose and purple flower,  
 Let grow too long, are soonest blasted !  
 Dainty fruits, though sweet, will sour,  
 And rot in ripeness, left untasted !  
 Yet here is one more sweet than these :  
 The more you taste, the more she'll please.

Beauty, though enclosed with ice,  
 Is a shadow chaste as rare ;

Then, how much those sweets entice  
 That have issue full as fair !

Earth cannot yield from all her powers  
 One equal, for Dame Venus' bowers !

P. MASSINGER.

## 648. TO DEATH

WHY art thou slow, thou rest of trouble, Death,

To stop a wretch's breath,

That calls on thee, and offers her sad heart

A prey unto thy dart ?

I am not young, nor fair ; be therefore bold.

Sorrow hath made me old,

Deformed, and wrinkled ; all that I can crave

Is quiet in my grave.

Such as live happy hold long life a jewel,

But to me thou art cruel,

If thou end not my tedious misery,

And I soon cease to be.

Strike, and strike home, then ; pity unto me,

In one short hour's delay is tyranny.

P. MASSINGER.

## 649. FROM 'LOGAN BRAES'

By Logan's streams that rin sae deep  
 Fu' aft wi' glee, I've herded sheep,  
 I've herded sheep, or gather'd slaes,  
 Wi' my dear lad, on Logan braes.  
 But wae's my heart! thae days are gane,  
 And fu' o' grief I herd alane,  
 While my dear lad maun face his faes,  
 Far, far frae me and Logan braes.  
 Nae mair at Logan kirk will he,  
 Atween the preachings, meet wi' me—  
 Meet wi' me, or when it's mirk,  
 Convoy me hame frae Logan kirk.  
 I weel may sing thae days are gane—  
 Frae kirk and fair I come alane,  
 While my dear lad maun face his faes,  
 Far, far frae me and Logan braes!

J. MAYNE.

## 650. THE MARINER'S WIFE

BUT are you sure the news is true?  
 And are you sure he's well?  
 Is this a time to think o' wark?  
 Ye jades, fling by your wheel!  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house,  
 There's nae luck at a';  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house  
 When our goodman's awa'!  
 Is this a time to think of wark,  
 When Colin's at the door?  
 Rax me my cloak! I'll down the  
 Quay  
 And see him come ashore!  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.  
 Rise up, and make a clean fireside!  
 Put on the muckle pat!  
 Gie little Kate her cotton gown,  
 And Jock his Sunday's coat.  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.  
 Make their shoon as black as slaes,  
 Their stockings white as snaw.  
 It's a' to pleasure our goodman,  
 He likes to see them brow!  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.

There are twa hens into the  
 crib  
 Have fed this month and mair;  
 Made haste, and thraw their necks  
 about,  
 That Colin well may fare.  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.  
 Bring down to me my bigonet,  
 My bishop-satin gown,  
 And then gae tell the bailie's  
 wife  
 That Colin's come to town.  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.  
 My Turkey slippers I'll put on,  
 My stockings pearl-blue,  
 And a' to pleasure our goodman  
 For he's baith leal and true.  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.  
 Sae sweet his voice, sae smooth his  
 tongue,  
 His breath's like cauler air,  
 His very tread has music in't,  
 As he comes up the stair!  
 There's nae luck about the  
 house, &c.



And will I see his face again?  
 And will I hear him speak?  
 I'm downright dizzy with the joy;  
 In troth, I'm like to greet!  
 There's nae luck about the house,  
 There's nae luck at a';  
 There's nae luck about the house  
 When our goodman's awa'!

W. J. MICKLE.

### 651. THE PALM AND THE PINE

BENEATH an Indian palm a girl  
 Of other blood reposes,  
 Her cheek is clear and pale as  
 pearl,  
 Amid that wild of roses.

Beside a northern pine a boy  
 Is leaning fancy-bound,  
 Nor listens where with noisy joy  
 Awaits the impatient hound.

Cool grows the sick and feverish  
 calm,—  
 Relaxed the frosty twine,—  
 The pine-tree dreameth of the  
 palm,  
 The palm-tree of the pine.  
 As soon shall nature interlace  
 Those dimly-visions boughs,  
 As these young lovers face to face  
 Renew their early vows!

R. M. MILNES, LORD HOUGHTON.

### 652. 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 is it 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, though not too closely  
 scanned,  
 Enjoyed, as far as known—  
 With will, by no reverse un-  
 manned—  
 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 bare,  
 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—  
 Oh, 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.

R. M. MILNES, LORD HOUGHTON.

### 653. SHADOWS

THEY seemed, to those who saw them meet,  
 The casual friends of every day ;  
 Her smile was undisturbed and sweet,  
 His courtesy was free and gay.  
 But yet if one the other's name  
 In some unguarded moment heard,  
 The heart you thought so calm and tame  
 Would struggle like a captured bird :  
 And letters of mere formal phrase  
 Were blistered with repeated tears,—  
 And this was not the work of days,  
 But had gone on for years and years !  
 Alas, that love was not too strong  
 For maiden shame and manly pride !  
 Alas, that they delayed so long  
 The goal of mutual bliss beside !  
 Yet what no chance could then reveal,  
 And neither would be first to own,  
 Let fate and courage now conceal,  
 When truth could bring remorse alone.

R. M. MILNES, LORD HOUGHTON.

## 654. THE VENETIAN SERENADE

WHEN along the light ripple the far serenade  
 Has accosted the ear of each passionate maid,  
 She may open the window that looks on the stream,—  
 She may smile on her pillow and blend it in dream;  
 Half in words, half in music, it pierces the gloom,  
 'I am coming—Stali—but you know not for whom!  
 Stali—not for whom!'

Now the tones become clearer—you hear more and more  
 How the water divided returns on the oar,—  
 Does the prow of the gondola strike on the stair?  
 Do the voices and instruments pause and prepare?  
 Oh! they faint on the ear as the lamp on the view,  
 'I am coming—Premì—but I stay not for you!  
 Premì—not for you!'

Then return to your couch, you who stifle a tear,  
 Then awake not, fair sleeper—believe he is here;  
 For the young and the loving no sorrow endures,  
 If to-day be another's, to-morrow is yours;—  
 May, the next time you listen, your fancy be true,  
 'I am coming—Sciàr—and for you and to you!  
 Sciàr—and to you!'

R. M. MILNES, LORD HOUGHTON.

## 655. ON THE LATE MASSACRE IN PIEDMONT

AVENGE, O Lord, thy slaughtered saints, whose bones  
 Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold,  
 Even them who kept Thy truth so pure of old  
 When all our fathers worshipped stocks and stones,  
 Forget not: in Thy book record their groans  
 Who were Thy sheep, and in their ancient fold  
 Slain by the bloody Piedmontese that rolled  
 Mother with infant down the rocks. Their moans  
 The vales redoubled to the hills, and they  
 To Heaven. Their martyred 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.

## 656. TO THE LORD GENERAL CROMWELL

CROMWELL, our chief of men, who through a cloud  
 Not of war only, but detractions rude,  
 Guided by faith and matchless fortitude  
 To peace and truth thy glorious way hast ploughed,  
 And on the neck of crownèd Fortune proud  
 Hast reared God's trophies, and His work pursued,  
 While Darwen stream with blood of Scots imbrued  
 And Dunbar field resounds thy praises loud,  
 And Worcester's laureate wreath; yet much remains  
 To conquer still; peace hath her victories  
 No less renowned than war, new foes arise  
 Threatening to bind our souls with secular chains:  
 Help us to save free conscience from the paw  
 Of hireling wolves whose gospel is their maw. J. MILTON.

## 657. TO THE LADY MARGARET LEY

DAUGHTER to that good earl, once president  
 Of England's council, and her treasury,  
 Who lived in both, unstained with gold or fee,  
 And left them both, more in himself content,  
 Till the sad breaking of the Parliament  
 Broke him, as that dishonest victory  
 At Chaeronea, fatal to liberty,  
 Killed with report that old man eloquent,  
 Though later born, than to have known the days  
 Wherein your father flourished, 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, honoured Margaret. J. MILTON.

## 658. HAIL, HOLY LIGHT

HAIL, holy Light! offspring of heaven first-born!  
 Or of the Eternal Co-eternal beam,  
 May I express thee unblamed? since God is light,  
 And never but in unapproachèd light  
 Dwelt from eternity, dwelt then in thee,  
 Bright effluence of bright essence increate.

. . . . .  
 With the year  
 Seasons return; but not to me returns  
 Day, or the sweet approach of even or morn,  
 Or sight of vernal bloom, or summer's rose,  
 Or flocks, or herds, or human face divine;  
 But cloud instead, and ever-during dark  
 Surrounds me, from the cheerful ways of men  
 Cut off, and for the book of knowledge fair

Presented with a universal blank  
 Of Nature's works, to me expunged and rased,  
 And wisdom at one entrance quite shut out.  
 So much the rather thou, celestial light,  
 Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers  
 Irradiate: there plant eyes, all mist from thence  
 Purge and disperse, that I may see and tell  
 Of things invisible to mortal sight.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. iii).

659. FROM 'L'ALLEGRO'

HASTE thee, Nymph, and bring with thee  
 Jest and youthful jollity,  
 Quips and cranks, and wanton wiles,  
 Nods, and becks, and wreathèd 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 unprovèd pleasures free;

Then to the well-trod stage anon,  
 If Jonson's learnèd 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 linkèd 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 heaped Elysian flowers, and hear  
 Such strains as would have won the ear  
 Of Pluto, to have quite set free  
 His half-regained Eurydice.

J. MILTON.

## 660. PHILOSOPHY

How charming is divine Philosophy!  
 Not harsh, and crabbed, as dull fools suppose,  
 But musical as is Apollo's lute,  
 And a perpetual feast of nectared sweets,  
 Where no crude surfeit reigns. J. MILTON (*Comus*).

## 661. ON BEING ARRIVED AT TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF AGE

How soon hath Time, the subtle thief of youth,  
 Stolen on his wing my three and twentieth year!  
 My hasting days fly on with full career,  
 But my late spring no bud or blossom showeth.  
 Perhaps my semblance might deceive the truth,  
 That I to manhood am arrived so near,  
 And inward ripeness doth much less appear,  
 That some more timely-happy spirits indueth.  
 Yet be it less or more, or soon or slow,  
 It shall be still in strictest measure even,  
 To that same lot, however mean, or high,  
 Toward which Time leads me, and the will of Heaven;  
 All is, if I have grace to use it so,  
 As ever in my great Taskmaster's eye. J. MILTON.

## 662. FROM 'THE HYMN ON THE NATIVITY'

<p>It was the winter wild,          While the heaven-born child          All meanly wrapt in the rude          manger lies;          Nature, in awe to him,          Had doffed 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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
--	--

But he, her fears to cease,  
 Sent down the meek-eyed Peace;  
 She, crowned 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.

J. MILTON.

## 663. METHOUGHT I SAW MY LATE ESPOUSED SAINT

METHOUGHT I saw my late espoused saint  
 Brought to me like Alcestis from the grave,  
 Whom Jove's great son to her glad husband gave,  
 Rescued from death by force though pale and faint.  
 Mine as whom washed from spot of child-bed taint,  
 Purification in the old law did save,  
 And such, as yet once more I trust to have  
 Full sight of her in heaven without restraint,  
 Came vested all in white, pure as her mind:  
 Her face was veiled, yet to my fancied sight,  
 Love, sweetness, goodness, in her person shined  
 So clear, as in no face with more delight.  
 But O, as to embrace me she inclined,  
 I waked, she fled, and day brought back my night.

J. MILTON.

## 664. NOW CAME STILL EVENING ON

Now came still evening on, and twilight grey  
 Had in her sober livery all things clad;  
 Silence accompanied, for beast and bird,  
 They to their grassy couch, these to their nests  
 Were slunk, all but the wakeful nightingale;  
 She all night long her amorous descant sung;  
 Silence was pleased: now glowed the firmament  
 With living sapphires: Hesperus that led  
 The starry host, rode brightest, till the moon  
 Rising in clouded majesty, at length,  
 Apparent queen, unveiled her peerless light,  
 And o'er the dark her silver mantle threw.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. iv).

## 665. THE NIGHTINGALE

O NIGHTINGALE, that on yon bloomy spray  
 Warbl'st at eve, when all the woods are still,  
 Thou with fresh hope the Lover's heart dost fill,  
 While the jolly hours lead on propitious May,  
 Thy liquid notes that close the eye of Day,  
 First heard before the shallow Cuckoo's bill  
 Portend success in love; O if Jove's will  
 Have linked that amorous power to thy soft lay,  
 Now timely sing, ere the rude Bird of Hate  
 Foretell my hopeless doom in some grove nigh:  
 As thou from year to year hast sung too late  
 For my relief; yet hadst no reason why,  
 Whether the Muse or Love call thee his mate,  
 Both them I serve, and of their train am I. J. MILTON.

## 666. SATAN'S ADDRESS TO THE SUN

O THOU, that, with surpassing glory crowned,  
 Look'st from thy sole dominion like the god  
 Of this new world; at whose sight all the stars  
 Hide their diminished heads; to thee I call,  
 But with no friendly voice, and add thy name,  
 O sun! to tell thee how I hate thy beams,  
 That bring to my remembrance from what state  
 I fell, how glorious once above thy sphere,  
 Till pride and worse ambition threw me down  
 Warring in heaven against heaven's matchless king.  
 Ah, wherefore? He deserved no such return  
 From me, whom He created what I was  
 In that bright eminence, and with his good  
 Upbraided none; nor was his service hard.

Me miserable! which way shall I fly  
 Infinite wrath and infinite despair?  
 Which way I fly is hell; myself am hell;  
 And, in the lowest deep, a lower deep  
 Still threatening to devour me opens wide,  
 To which the hell I suffer seems a heaven.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. iv).

## 667. OF MAN'S FIRST DISOBEDIENCE

OF Man's first disobedience, and the fruit  
 Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal taste  
 Brought death into the world, and all our woe,  
 With loss of Eden, till one greater Man  
 Restore us, and regain the blissful seat,  
 Sing, heavenly Muse, that on the secret top  
 Of Oreb, or of Sinai, didst inspire  
 That shepherd, who first taught the chosen seed,  
 In the beginning how the heavens and earth  
 Rose out of chaos: or if Sion hill  
 Delight thee more, and Siloa's brook that flowed  
 Fast by the oracle of God; I thence  
 Invoke thy aid to my adventurous song,  
 That with no middle flight intends to soar  
 Above the Aonian mount, while it pursues  
 Things unattempted yet in prose or rhyme.  
 And chiefly thou, O Spirit, that dost prefer  
 Before all temples the upright heart and pure,  
 Instruct me, for Thou knowest; Thou from the first  
 Wast present, and with mighty wings outspread  
 Dove-like satst brooding on the vast Abyss  
 And mad'st it pregnant: what in me is dark  
 Illumine, what is low raise and support;



That to the height of this great argument  
I may assert Eternal Providence,  
And justify the ways of God to men.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. i).

668. FAITHFUL AMONG THE FAITHLESS

THE seraph Abdiel, faithful found,  
Among the faithless, faithful only he ;  
Among innumerable false, unmoved,  
Unshaken, unseduced, unterrified,  
His loyalty he kept, his love, his zeal ;  
Nor number, nor example with him wrought  
To swerve from truth, or change his constant mind,  
Though single.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. v).

669. THESE ARE THY GLORIOUS WORKS

THESE are thy glorious works, Parent of good,  
Almighty, Thine this universal frame,  
Thus wondrous fair : Thyself how wondrous then !  
Unspeakable, who sitt'st above these heavens  
To us invisible, or dimly seen  
In these thy lowest works ; yet these declare  
Thy goodness beyond thought, and power divine.  
Speak, ye who best can tell, ye sons of light,  
Angels, for ye behold Him, and with songs  
And choral symphonies, day without night,  
Circle His throne rejoicing, ye, in heaven,  
On earth join all ye creatures to extol  
Him first, Him last, Him midst, and without end.

. . . . .  
Join voices, all ye living souls, ye birds,  
That, singing, up to heaven-gate ascend,  
Bear on your wings and in your notes His praise.  
Ye that in waters glide, and ye that walk  
The earth, and stately tread, or lowly creep ;  
Witness if I be silent, morn or even,  
To hill, or valley, fountain, or fresh shade,  
Made vocal by my song, and taught His praise.  
Hail ! universal Lord ! be bounteous still  
To give us only good ; and if the night  
Have gathered aught of evil or concealed,  
Disperse it, as now light dispels the dark !

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. v).

## 670. FROM 'COMUS'

To the Ocean now I fly,  
 And those happy climes that lie  
 Where day never shuts his eye,  
 Up in the broad fields of the sky ;  
 There I suck the liquid air  
 All amidst the Gardens fair  
 Of Hesperus, and his daughters  
 three  
 That sing about the golden tree :  
 Along the crisped shades and  
 bowers  
 Revels the spruce and jocund  
 Spring,  
 The Graces, and the rosy-bosomed  
 Hours,  
 Thither all their bounties bring,  
 That there eternal Summer dwells,

And West winds, with musky wing  
 About the cedarn alleys fling  
 Nard, and Cassia's balmy smells.  
 Iris there, with humid bow,  
 Waters the odorous banks that  
 blow  
 Flowers of more mingled hue  
 Than her purpled scarf can show,  
 And drenches with Elysian dew  
 (List, mortals, if your ears be true)  
 Beds of hyacinth, and roses  
 Where young Adonis oft reposes,  
 Waxing well of his deep wound  
 In slumber soft, and on the  
 ground  
 Sadly sits the Assyrian Queen.  
 J. MILTON.

## 671. HE FOR GOD ONLY, SHE FOR GOD IN HIM

Two of far nobler shape, erect and tall,  
 Godlike erect, with native honour clad,  
 In naked majesty seemed lords of all,  
 And worthy seemed.

Not equal, as their sex not equal seemed ;  
 For contemplation he and valour formed ;  
 For softness she and sweet attractive grace ;  
 He for God only, she for God in him.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. iv).

## 672. ON SHAKESPEARE, 1630

WHAT needs my Shakespeare for his honoured bones,  
 The labour of an age in piled stones,  
 Or that his hallowed relics should be hid  
 Under a star-ypointing pyramid ?  
 Dear son of memory, great heir of Fame,  
 What need'st thou such weak witness of thy name ?  
 Thou in our wonder and astonishment  
 Hast built thyself a livelong monument.  
 For whilst to the shame of slow-endeavouring art,  
 Thy easy numbers flow, and that each heart  
 Hath from the leaves of thy unvalued book,  
 Those Delphic lines with deep impression took,

Then thou our fancy of itself bereaving,  
 Dost make us marble with too much conceiving ;  
 And so sepulchred in such pomp dost lie,  
 That kings for such a tomb would wish to die.

J. MILTON.

### 673. WOMAN'S HAPPIEST KNOWLEDGE

WHAT thou bidd'st  
 Unargued I obey: so God ordains ;  
 God is thy law, thou mine: to know no more  
 Is woman's happiest knowledge, and her praise.  
 With thee conversing, I forget all time ;  
 All seasons, and their change, all please alike.  
 Sweet is the breath of morn, her rising sweet,  
 With charm of earliest birds: pleasant the sun,  
 When first on this delightful land he spreads  
 His orient beams, on herb, tree, fruit, and flower,  
 Glistening with dew: fragrant the fertile earth  
 After soft showers; and sweet the coming on  
 Of grateful evening mild; then silent night,  
 With this her solemn bird, and this fair moon,  
 And these the gems of heaven, her starry train:  
 But neither breath of morn, when she ascends  
 With charm of earliest birds, nor rising sun  
 On this delightful land, nor herb, fruit, flower  
 Glistening with dew, nor fragrance after showers,  
 Nor grateful evening mild, nor silent night,  
 With this her solemn bird, nor walk by moon,  
 Or glittering star-light, without thee is sweet.

J. MILTON (*Paradise Lost*, Bk. iv).

### 674. 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.

## 675. 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 appeared  
 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,  
 Tempered 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 Neaera'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 abhorrèd shears  
 And slits the thin-spun life. But not the praise,  
 Phoebus replied, and touched 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 honoured flood  
 Smooth-sliding Mincius, crowned with vocal reeds,  
 That strain I heard was of a higher mood :  
 But now my oat proceeds,  
 And listens to the herald of the sea  
 That came in Neptune's plea,  
 He asked the waves, and asked the felon winds,  
 What hard mishap hath doomed this gentle swain ?  
 And questioned every gust of rugged wings  
 That blows from off each beakèd promontory :  
 They knew not of his story ;

And sage Hippotadès their answer brings,  
 That not a blast was from his dungeon strayed,  
 The air was calm, and on the level brine  
 Sleek Panopé with all her sisters played.  
 It was that fatal and perfidious bark  
 Built in the eclipse, and rigged 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 learned 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 swoln 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, Alpheus, 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 enamelled eyes  
 That on the green turf suck the honeyed 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 freaked 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 hurled,  
Whether beyond the stormy Hebrides  
Where thou perhaps under the whelming tide  
Visit'st 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 walked 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 touched the tender stops of various quills,  
With eager thought warbling his Doric lay:  
And now the sun had stretched out all the hills,  
And now was dropt into the western bay:  
At last he rose, and twitched his mantle blue:  
To-morrow to fresh woods, and pastures new. J. MILTON.

## 676. PRAYER

PRAYER is the soul's sincere desire,  
Uttered or unexpressed ;  
The motion of a hidden fire,  
That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh ;  
The falling of a tear ;  
The upward glancing of an eye,  
When none but God is near.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech  
That infant lips can try ;  
Prayer, the sublimest strains that reach  
The Majesty on high. J. MONTGOMERY.

## 677. THE FALLING LEAF

WERE I a trembling leaf  
On yonder stately tree,  
After a season gay and brief,  
Condemned to fade and flee ;

I should be loath to fall  
Beside the common way,  
Weltering in mire, and spurned by  
all,  
Till trodden down to clay.

Nor would I like to spread  
My thin and withered face  
In hortus siccus, pale and dead,  
A mummy of my race.

No—on the wings of air  
Might I be left to fly,  
I know not and I heed not where,  
A waif of earth and sky !  
J. MONTGOMERY.

## 678. BELIEVE ME, IF ALL THOSE ENDEARING YOUNG CHARMS

BELIEVE me, if all those endearing young charms,  
Which I gaze on so fondly to-day,  
Were to change by to-morrow, and fleet in my arms,  
Like fairy-gifts fading away,  
Thou wouldst still be adored, as this moment thou art,  
Let thy loveliness fade as it will,  
And around the dear ruin each wish of my heart  
Would entwine itself verdantly still.

It is not while beauty and youth are thine own,  
And thy cheeks unprofaned by a tear,  
That the fervour and faith of a soul can be known,  
To which time will but make thee more dear ;  
No, the heart that has truly loved never forgets,  
But as truly loves on to the close,  
As the sun-flower turns on her god, when he sets,  
The same look which she turned when he rose.

T. MOORE.



## 679. A CANADIAN BOAT-SONG

FAINTLY as tolls the evening chime  
 Our voices keep tune and our oars keep time.  
 Soon as the woods on shore look dim,  
 We'll sing at St. Anne's our parting hymn.  
 Row, brothers, row, the stream runs fast,  
 The Rapids are near and the daylight's past!  
 Why should we yet our sail unfurl?  
 There is not a breath the blue wave to curl;  
 But, when the wind blows off the shore,  
 Oh! sweetly we'll rest our weary oar.  
 Blow, breezes, blow, the stream runs fast,  
 The Rapids are near and the daylight's past!  
 Utawa's tide! this trembling moon  
 Shall see us float over thy surges soon.  
 Saint of this green isle! hear our prayers,  
 Oh, grant us cool heavens and favouring airs.  
 Blow, breezes, blow, the stream runs fast,  
 The Rapids are near and the daylight's past!

T. MOORE.

## 680. OFT IN THE STILLY NIGHT

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 dimmed and gone,  
 The cheerful hearts now broken!  
 Thus, in the stilly night,  
 Ere Slumber's chain hath bound  
 me,  
 Sad Memory brings the light  
 Of other days around me.

When I remember all  
 The friends, so linked 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 hath bound  
 me,  
 Sad Memory brings the light  
 Of other days around me.

T. MOORE.

## 681. OH! BREATHE NOT HIS NAME

OH! breathe not his name, let it sleep in the shade  
 Where cold and unhonoured his relics are laid:  
 Sad, silent, and dark, be the tears that we shed,  
 As the night-dew that falls on the grass o'er his head.  
 But the night-dew that falls, though in silence it weeps,  
 Shall brighten with verdure the grave where he sleeps;  
 And the tear that we shed, though in secret it rolls,  
 Shall long keep his memory green in our souls. T. MOORE.

## 682. SHE IS FAR FROM THE LAND

SHE is far from the land where her young hero sleeps,  
 And lovers are round her, sighing :  
 But coldly she turns from their gaze, and weeps,  
 For her heart in his grave is lying.

She sings the wild songs of her dear native plains,  
 Every note which he loved awaking ;—  
 Ah ! little they think, who delight in her strains,  
 How the heart of the minstrel is breaking.

He had lived for his love, for his country he died,  
 They were all that to life had entwined him ;  
 Nor soon shall the tears of his country be dried,  
 Nor long will his love stay behind him.

Oh ! make her a grave where the sunbeams rest,  
 When they promise a glorious morrow ;  
 They'll shine o'er her sleep, like a smile from the West,  
 From her own loved island of sorrow. T. MOORE.

## 683. THE HARP THAT ONCE THROUGH TARA'S HALLS

THE harp that once through Tara's halls  
 The soul of music shed,  
 Now hangs as mute on Tara's walls  
 As if that soul were fled.  
 So sleeps the pride of former days,  
 So glory's thrill is o'er,  
 And hearts, that once beat high for praise,  
 Now feel that pulse no more.

No more to chiefs and ladies bright  
 The harp of Tara swells :  
 The chord alone, that breaks at night,  
 Its tale of ruin tells.  
 Thus Freedom now so seldom wakes,  
 The only throb she gives,  
 Is when some heart indignant breaks,  
 To show that still she lives.

T. MOORE.

## 684. THE MINSTREL-BOY

THE Minstrel-Boy to the war is gone,  
 In' the ranks of death you'll find him ;  
 His father's sword he has girded on,  
 And his wild harp slung behind him.  
 ' Land of song ! ' said the warrior-bard,  
 ' Though all the world betrays thee,  
 One sword, at least, thy rights shall guard,  
 One faithful harp shall praise thee ! '

The Minstrel fell!—but the foeman's chain  
 Could not bring his proud soul under ;  
 The harp he loved ne'er spoke again,  
 For he tore his chords asunder ;  
 And said, ' No chains shall sully thee,  
 Thou soul of love and bravery !  
 Thy songs were made for the brave and free,  
 They shall never sound in slavery !' T. MOORE.

## 685. THE MEETING OF THE WATERS

THERE is not in the wide world a valley so sweet  
 As that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet ;  
 Oh ! the last rays of feeling and life must depart,  
 Ere the bloom of that valley shall fade from my heart.

Yet it was not that nature had shed o'er the scene  
 Her purest of crystal and brightest of green ;  
 'Twas not her soft magic of streamlet or hill,  
 Oh ! no—it was something more exquisite still.

'Twas that friends, the beloved of my bosom, were near,  
 Who made every dear scene of enchantment more dear,  
 And who felt how the best charms of nature improve,  
 When we see them reflected from looks that we love.

Sweet vale of Avoca ! how calm could I rest  
 In thy bosom of shade, with the friends I love best,  
 Where the storms that we feel in this cold world should cease,  
 And our hearts, like thy waters, be mingled in peace.  
 T. MOORE.

## 686. THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER

'Tis the last rose of summer  
 Left blooming alone ;  
 All her lovely companions  
 Are faded and gone ;  
 No flower of her kindred,  
 No rosebud is nigh,  
 To reflect back her blushes,  
 To give sigh for sigh.

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one !  
 To pine on the stem ;  
 Since the lovely are sleeping,  
 Go, sleep thou with them.

Thus kindly I scatter  
 Thy leaves o'er the bed,  
 Where thy mates of the garden  
 Lie scentless and dead.

So soon may I follow,  
 When friendships decay,  
 And from Love's shining circle  
 The gems drop away.  
 When true hearts lie withered  
 And fond ones are flown,  
 Oh ! who would inhabit  
 This bleak world alone ?  
 T. MOORE.

## 687. WHEN HE WHO ADORES THEE

WHEN he who adores thee has left but the name  
 Of his fault and his sorrows behind,  
 Oh! say, wilt thou weep, when they darken the fame  
 Of a life that for thee was resigned?  
 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.  
 Oh! 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.

## 688. THE GILLIFLOWER OF GOLD

A GOLDEN gilliflower to-day  
 I wore upon my helm alway,  
 And won the prize of this tourney.  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée.*

However well Sir Giles might sit,  
 His sun was weak to wither it,  
 Lord Miles's blood was dew on it:  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Although my spear in splinters flew,  
 From John's steel-coat, my eye was true;  
 I wheeled about, and cried for you,  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Yea, do not doubt my heart was good,  
 Though my spear flew like rotten wood,  
 To shout, although I scarcely stood,  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée.*

My hand was steady too, to take  
 My axe from round my neck, and break  
 John's steel-coat up for my love's sake.  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée.*

When I stood in my tent again,  
 Arming afresh, I felt a pain  
 Take hold of me, I was so fain,  
*Hah! hah! la belle jaune giroflée,*

To hear : *Honneur aux fils des preux !*  
 Right in my ears again, and show  
 The gilliflower blossomed new.  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

The Sieur Guillaume against me came,  
 His tabard bore three points of flame  
 From a red heart : with little blame,  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Our tough spears crackled up like straw,  
 He was the first to turn and draw  
 His sword, that had nor speck nor flaw ;  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

But I felt weaker than a maid,  
 And my brain, dizzied and afraid,  
 Within my helm a fierce tune played,  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Until I thought of your dear head,  
 Bowed to the gilliflower bed,  
 The yellow flowers stained with red ;  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Crash ! how the swords met : *giroflée !*  
 The fierce tune in my helm would play,  
*La belle ! la belle ! jaune giroflée !*  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

Once more the great swords met again :  
 ' *La belle ! la belle !* ' but who fell then ?  
 Le Sieur Guillaume, who struck down ten ;  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

And as with mazed and unarmed face,  
 Toward my own crown and the Queen's place,  
 They led me at a gentle pace,  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

I almost saw your quiet head  
 Bowed o'er the gilliflower bed,  
 The yellow flowers stained with red.  
*Hah ! hah ! la belle jaune giroflée.*

W. MORRIS.

## 689. PRAISE OF MY LADY

My lady seems of ivory  
Forehead, straight nose, and  
cheeks that be

Hollowed a little mournfully.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Her forehead, overshadowed much  
By bows of hair, has a wave such  
As God was good to make for me.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Not greatly long my lady's hair,  
Nor yet with yellow colour fair,  
But thick and crispèd wonderfully:

*Beata mea Domina!*

Heavy to make the pale face sad,  
And dark, but dead as though  
it had

Been forged by God most wonder-  
fully

*Beata mea Domina!*

Of some strange metal, thread by  
thread,

To stand out from my lady's head,  
Not moving much to tangle me.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Beneath her brows the lids fall  
slow,

The lashes a clear shadow throw  
Where I would wish my lips to be.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Her great eyes, standing far apart,  
Draw up some memory from her  
heart,

And gaze out very mournfully;

*Beata mea Domina!.*

So beautiful and kind they are,  
But most times looking out afar,  
Waiting for something, not for me.

*Beata mea Domina!*

I wonder if the lashes long  
Are those that do her bright eyes  
wrong,

For always half tears seem to be

*Beata mea Domina!*

Lurking below the underlid,  
Darkening the place where they  
lie hid:

If they should rise and flow for  
me!

*Beata mea Domina!*

Her full lips being made to kiss,  
Curled up and pensive each one is;  
This makes me faint to stand and  
see.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Her lips are not contented now,  
Because the hours pass so slow  
Towards a sweet time: (pray for  
me),

*Beata mea Domina!*

Nay, hold thy peace! for who  
can tell?

But this at least I know full well,  
Her lips are parted longingly,

*Beata mea Domina!*

So passionate and swift to move,  
To pluck at any flying love,  
That I grow faint to stand and  
see.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Yea! there beneath them is her  
chin,

So fine and round, it were a sin  
To feel no weaker when I see

*Beata mea Domina!*

God's dealings; for with so much  
care

And troublous, faint lines wrought  
in there,

He finishes her face for me.

*Beata mea Domina!*

Of her long neck what shall I  
say?

What things about her body's  
sway,

Like a knight's pennon or slim  
tree

*Beata mea Domina!*

Set gently waving in the wind ;  
Or her long hands that I may  
find  
On some day sweet to move o'er  
me ?

*Beata mea Domina !*

God pity me though, if I missed  
The telling, how along her wrist  
The veins creep, dying languidly  
*Beata mea Domina !*

Inside her tender palm and thin.  
Now give me pardon, dear,  
wherein

My voice is weak and vexes thee.  
*Beata mea Domina !*

All men that see her any time,  
I charge you straightly in this  
rhyme,

What, and wherever you may be,  
*Beata mea Domina !*

To kneel before her ; as for me  
I choke and grow quite faint to see  
My lady moving graciously.  
*Beata mea Domina !*

W. MORRIS.

### 690. SUMMER DAWN

PRAY but one prayer for me 'twixt thy closed lips ;  
Think but one thought of me up in the stars.

The summer night waneth, the morning light slips  
Faint and grey 'twixt the leaves of the aspen, betwixt the  
cloud-bars,

That are patiently waiting there for the dawn :

Patient and colourless, though Heaven's gold  
Waits to float through them along with the sun.

Far out in the meadows, above the young corn,  
The heavy elms wait, and restless and cold

The uneasy wind rises ; the roses are dun ;

They pray the long gloom through for daylight new born,  
Round the lone house in the midst of the corn.

Speak but one word to me over the corn,  
Over the tender, bowed locks of the corn.

W. MORRIS.

### 691. 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 passed 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 spoke he never 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 swings so,  
That the twilight makes it blind.

They lighted a great torch then,  
 When his arms were pinioned  
 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 turned 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  
 passed,  
 But long ago I and my men,  
 When the sky was overcast,  
 And the smoke rolled 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.

### 692. 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 hammered 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  
 Stopped 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 cheeks 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 looked 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 kissed 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.

## 693. BEAUTY BATHING

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,  
 And fond imagination  
 Seemèd to see, but could not tell,  
 Her feature or her fashion :  
 But even as babes in dreams do smile,  
 And sometimes fall a-weeping,  
 So I awaked as wise that while  
 As when I fell a-sleeping.

A. MUNDAY.

## 694. THE LAND O' THE LEAL

I'm wearin' awa', John,  
 Like snaw-wreaths in thaw, John !  
 I'm wearin' awa'  
 To the land o' the leal !  
 There 's nae sorrow there, John ;  
 There 's neither cauld nor care,  
 John ;  
 The day is aye fair  
 In the land o' the leal.

Our bonnie bairn 's there, John,  
 She was baith gude and fair, John,  
 And, oh, we grudged her sair  
 To the land o' the leal !  
 But sorrow 's sel' wears past,  
 John !  
 And joy 's a-comin' fast, John !  
 The joy that 's aye to last  
 In the land o' the leal.

Sae dear that joy was bought,  
 John,  
 Sae free the battle fought, John,  
 That sinfu' man e'er brought  
 To the land o' the leal.  
 Oh, dry your glist'ning e'e, John,  
 My saul langs to be free, John,  
 And angels beckon me  
 To the land o' the leal.

Oh, haud ye leal and true, John !  
 Your day, it 's wearin' thro',  
 John ;  
 And I'll welcome you  
 To the land o' the leal.  
 Now fare ye weel, my ain John !  
 This warld 's cares are vain, John ;  
 We'll meet and we'll be fain  
 In the land o' the leal !  
 CAROLINA, LADY NAIRNE.

## 695. CALLER HERRIN'

WHA'LL buy my caller herrin' ?  
 They're bonnie fish and halesame  
 farin' ;  
 Wha'll buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

When ye were sleepin' on your  
 pillows,  
 Dreamed ye aught o' our pair  
 fellows,  
 Darkling as they faced the billows,  
 A' to fill the woven willows ?  
 Buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth !

Wha'll buy my caller herrin' ?  
 They're no brought here without  
 brave darin' ;  
 Buy my caller herrin',  
 Hauled thro' wind and rain.  
 Wha'll buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

Wha'll buy my caller herrin' ?  
 Oh, ye may ca' them vulgar farin' ;  
 Wives and mithers, maist de-  
 spairin',  
 Ca' them lives o' men.  
 Wha'll buy my caller herrin',—  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

When the creel o' herrin' passes,  
 Ladies, clad in silks and laces,  
 Gather in their braw pelisses,  
 Cast their heads, and screw their  
 faces.  
 Wha'll buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

Caller herrin' 's no got lightly,  
 Ye can trip the spring fu' tightlie,  
 Spite o' tauntin', flauntin', flingin',  
 Gow has set you a' a-singing  
 ' Wha'll buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

Neebour wives ! now tent my tellin'  
 When the bonny-fish ye're sellin',  
 At ae word be, in ye're dealin' !  
 Truth will stand, when a' thing's failin' !  
 Wha'll buy my caller herrin',  
 New drawn frae the Forth ?

CAROLINA, LADY NAIRNE.

## 696. I NEVER LOVED AMBITIOUSLY TO CLIMB

I NEVER loved ambitiously to climb,  
 Or thrust my hand too far into the fire.  
 To be in heaven sure is a blessed thing ;  
 But, Atlas-like, to prop heaven on one's back  
 Cannot but be more labour than delight.  
 Such is the state of men in honour placed :  
 They are gold vessels made for servile uses ;  
 High trees that keep the weather from low houses,  
 But cannot shield the tempest from themselves.  
 I love to dwell betwixt the hills and dales,  
 Neither to be so great as to be envied,  
 Nor yet so poor the world should pity me.

T. NASH.

## 697. 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 (*Summer's Last Will and Testament*).

## 698. LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT

LEAD, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,  
 Lead Thou me on ;

The night is dark, and I am far from home,  
 Lead Thou me on.

Keep Thou my feet ; I do not ask to see  
 The distant scene : one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou  
 Shouldst lead me on ;

I loved to choose and see my path, but now  
 Lead Thou me on.

I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,  
 Pride ruled my will : remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still  
 Will lead me on,

O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till  
 The night is gone,

And with the morn those angel faces smile,  
 Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

J. H. NEWMAN.

## 699. FLOWERS WITHOUT FRUIT

PRUNE thou thy words, the thoughts control  
 That o'er thee swell and throng ;  
 They will condense within thy soul,  
 And change to purpose strong.

But he who lets his feelings run  
 In soft luxurious flow,  
 Shrinks when hard service must be done,  
 And faints at every woe.

Faith's meanest deed more favour bears,  
 Where hearts and wills are weighed,  
 Than brightest transports, choicest prayers,  
 Which bloom their hour and fade.

J. H. NEWMAN.

700. FROM 'THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS'

TAKE me away, and in the lowest deep  
 There let me be,  
 And there in hope the lone night-watches keep,  
 Told out for me.  
 There, motionless and happy in my pain,  
 Lone, not forlorn,—  
 There will I sing my sad perpetual strain,  
 Until the morn.  
 There will I sing, and soothe my stricken breast,  
 Which ne'er can cease  
 To throb, and pine, and languish, till possess  
 Of its Sole Peace.  
 There will I sing my absent Lord and Love:—  
 Take me away,  
 That sooner I may rise, and go above,  
 And see Him in the truth of everlasting day.

J. H. NEWMAN.

701. TO DARKNESS

HAIL, thou most sacred, venerable thing!  
 What muse is worthy thee to sing—  
 Thee, from whose pregnant, universal womb  
 All things, even Light, thy rival, first did come?  
 What dares he not attempt that sings of thee,  
 Thou first and greatest mystery?  
 Who can the secrets of thy essence tell?  
 Thou, like the light of God, art inaccessible.  
 Before great Love this monument did raise,  
 This ample theatre of praise;  
 Before the folding circles of the sky  
 Were tuned by Him who is all harmony;  
 Before the morning stars their hymn began,  
 Before the council held for man,  
 Before the birth of either time or place,  
 Thou reign'st unquestioned monarch in the empty space.  
 Thy native lot thou didst to Light resign,  
 But still half of the globe is thine.  
 Here, with a quiet but yet awful hand,  
 Like the best emperors thou dost command.

To thee the stars above their brightness owe,  
 And mortals their repose below ;  
 To thy protection fear and sorrow flee,  
 And those that weary are of Light find rest in thee.  
 Though light and glory be the Almighty's throne,  
 Darkness is His pavilion ;  
 From that His radiant beauty, but from thee  
 He has His terror and His majesty :  
 Thus, when He first proclaimed His sacred law,  
 And would His rebel subjects awe,  
 Like princes on some great solemnity,  
 He appeared in His robes of state, and clad Himself with thee.  
 J. NORRIS.

## 702. LIKE ANGELS' VISITS

How fading are the joys we dote upon :  
 Like apparitions seen and gone.  
 But those which soonest take their flight  
 Are the most exquisite and strong,—  
 Like angels' visits, short and bright ;  
 Mortality's too weak to bear them long. J. NORRIS.

## 703. I DO NOT LOVE THEE

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.

THE HON. MRS. NORTON.

704. I LATELY VOWED, BUT 'T WAS IN HASTE

I LATELY vowed, but 'twas in haste,  
That I no more would court  
The joys which seem when they are past  
As dull as they are short.

I oft to hate my mistress swear,  
But soon my weakness find :

I make my oaths when she's severe,  
But break them when she's kind. J. OLDMIXON.

705. BUSY, CURIOUS, THIRSTY FLY

Busy, curious, thirsty fly,  
Drink with me, and drink as I ;  
Freely welcome to my cup,  
Couldst thou sip and sip it up.  
Make the most of life you  
may,  
Life is short and wears away.

Both alike are mine and thine  
Hastening quick to their decline ;  
Thine's a summer, mine's no more,  
Though repeated to threescore ;  
Threescore summers, when they're  
gone,  
Will appear as short as one.

W. OLDYS.

706. WE ARE THE MUSIC-MAKERS

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.

. . . . .  
A breath of our inspiration  
Is the life of each generation ;  
A wondrous thing of our dreaming,  
Unearthly, 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.

A. W. E. O'SHAUGHNESSY.

## 707. THE ENCHANTMENT

I DID but look and love awhile—  
 'Twas but for one half-hour;  
 Then to resist I had no will,  
 And now I have no power.  
 To sigh, and wish, is all my ease,  
 Sighs which do heat impart  
 Enough to melt the coldest ice,  
 Yet cannot warm your heart.  
 Oh, would your pity give my heart  
 One corner of your breast,  
 'Twould learn of yours the winning art,  
 And quickly steal the rest. T. OTWAY.

## 708. O WOMAN! LOVELY WOMAN

O WOMAN! lovely woman! Nature made thee  
 To temper man: we had been brutes without you;  
 Angels are painted fair, to look like you:  
 There's in you all that we believe of heaven,—  
 Amazing brightness, purity, and truth,  
 Eternal joy, and everlasting love.  
 T. OTWAY (*Venice Preserved*).

709. WHAT MIGHTY ILLS HAVE NOT BEEN DONE BY  
WOMAN

WHAT mighty ills have not been done by woman!  
 Who was't betrayed the Capitol? A woman!  
 Who lost Mark Antony the world? A woman!  
 Who was the cause of a long ten years' war,  
 And laid old Troy in ashes? Woman,  
 Destructive, damnable, deceitful woman!  
 T. OTWAY (*The Orphan*).

## 710. MAN'S PREROGATIVE

BOOKS are a part of man's prerogative,  
 In formal ink they thoughts and voices hold,  
 That we to them our solitude may give,  
 And make time present travel that of old.  
 Our life fame pieceth longer at the end,  
 And books it farther backward to extend.  
 SIR T. OVERBURY (*The Wife*).

## 711. WHEN THY BEAUTY APPEARS

WHEN thy beauty appears  
 In its graces and airs  
 All bright as an angel new dropped from the sky,  
 At distance I gaze, and am awed by my fears,  
 So strangely you dazzle my eye!



But when without art,  
 Your kind thoughts you impart,  
 When your love runs in blushes through every vein;  
 When it darts from your eyes, when it pants in your heart,  
 Then I know you're a woman again.

There's a passion and pride  
 In our sex (she replied),  
 And thus, might I gratify both, I would do;  
 Still an angel appear to each lover beside,  
 But still be a woman to you!

T. PARNELL.

## 712. WASTEFUL WOMAN

AH wasteful woman,—she that may  
 On her sweet self set her own price,  
 Knowing he cannot choose but pay,—  
 How has she cheapened Paradise!  
 How given for naught her priceless gift!  
 How spoiled the bread and spilled the wine,  
 Which, spent with due respective thrift,  
 Had made brutes men, and men divine!  
 COVENTRY PATMORE (*The Angel in the House*, 1854).

## 713. THE TOYS

My little Son, who looked from thoughtful eyes,  
 And moved and spoke in quiet grown-up wise,  
 Having my law the seventh time disobeyed,  
 I struck him, and dismissed  
 With hard words and unkind,  
 —His Mother, who was patient, being dead.  
 Then, fearing lest his grief should hinder sleep,  
 I visited his bed,  
 But found him slumbering deep,  
 With darkened eyelids, and their lashes yet  
 From his late sobbing wet.  
 And I, with moan,  
 Kissing away his tears, left others of my own;  
 For, on a table drawn beside his head,  
 He had put, within his reach,  
 A box of counters and a red-veined stone,  
 A piece of glass abraded by the beach,  
 And six or seven shells,  
 A bottle with bluebells,  
 And two French copper coins, ranged there with careful art,  
 To comfort his sad heart.  
 So, when that night I prayed  
 To God, I wept, and said:  
 Ah, when at last we lie with tranced breath,  
 Not vexing Thee in death,

And Thou rememberest of what toys  
 We made our joys,  
 How weakly understood  
 Thy great commanded good,  
 Then, fatherly not less  
 Than I whom Thou hast moulded from the clay,  
 Thou'lt leave Thy wrath, and say ;  
 ' I will be sorry for their childishness.'

COVENTRY PATMORE.

#### 714. THE SPOUSAL TIME OF MAY

'Twas when the spousal time of May  
 Hangs all the hedge with bridal wreaths,  
 And air's so sweet the bosom gay  
 Gives thanks for every breath it breathes,  
 When like to like is gladly moved,  
 And each thing joins in Spring's refrain,  
 ' Let those love now who never loved ;  
 Let those who have loved love again ' ;  
 That I, in whom the sweet time wrought,  
 Lay stretched within a lonely glade,  
 Abandoned to delicious thought  
 Beneath the softly twinkling shade.  
 The leaves, all stirring, mimicked well  
 A neighbouring rush of rivers cold,  
 And, as the sun or shadow fell,  
 So these were green and those were gold ;  
 In dim recesses, hyacinths drooped,  
 And breadths of primrose lit the air,  
 Which, wandering through the woodland, stooped  
 And gathered perfumes here and there ;  
 Upon the spray the squirrel swung,  
 And careless songsters, six or seven,  
 Sang lofty songs the leaves among,  
 Fit for their only listener, Heaven.

COVENTRY PATMORE (*The Angel in the House*).

#### 715. 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 familiarity ;  
 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 unattained 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.

COVENTRY PATMORE (*The Angel in the House*).

#### 716. THE BEECH AND THE SAPLING OAK

FOR the tender beech and the sapling oak,  
 That grow by the shadowy rill,  
 You may cut down both at a single stroke,  
 You may cut down which you will.

But this you must know, that as long as they grow,  
 Whatsoever change may be,  
 You can never teach either oak or beech  
 To be aught but a greenwood tree.

T. L. PEACOCK (*Maid Marian*).

#### 717. 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.

## 718. LOVE AND AGE

I PLAYED with you 'mid cowslips blowing,  
 When I was six and you were four ;  
 When garlands weaving, flower-balls throwing,  
 Were pleasures soon to please no more.  
 Through groves and meads, o'er grass and heather,  
 With little playmates, to and fro,  
 We wandered hand in hand together ;  
 But that was sixty years ago.

You grew a lovely roseate maiden,  
 And still our early love was strong ;  
 Still with no care our days were laden,  
 They glided joyously along ;  
 And I did love you very dearly,  
 How dearly words want power to show ;  
 I thought your heart was touched as nearly ;  
 But that was fifty years ago.

Then other lovers came around you,  
 Your beauty grew from year to year,  
 And many a splendid circle found you  
 The centre of its glittering sphere.  
 I saw you then, first vows forsaking,  
 On rank and wealth your hand bestow ;  
 Oh, then I thought my heart was breaking,—  
 But that was forty years ago.

And I lived on, to wed another :  
 No cause she gave me to repine ;  
 And when I heard you were a mother,  
 I did not wish the children mine.  
 My own young flock, in fair progression,  
 Made up a pleasant Christmas row :  
 My joy in them was past expression ;—  
 But that was thirty years ago.

You grew a matron plump and comely,  
 You dwelt in fashion's brightest blaze ;  
 My earthly lot was far more homely ;  
 But I too had my festal days.  
 No merrier eyes have ever glistened  
 Around the hearth-stone's wintry glow,  
 Than when my youngest child was christened,—  
 But that was twenty years ago.

Time passed. My eldest girl was married,  
 And I am now a grandsire grey ;  
 One pet of four years old I've carried  
 Among the wild-flowered meads to play,

In our old fields of childish pleasure,  
 Where now, as then, the cowslips blow,  
 She fills her basket's ample measure ;—  
 And that is not ten years ago.

But though love's first impassioned blindness  
 Has passed away in colder light,  
 I still have thought of you with kindness,  
 And shall do, till our last good-night.  
 The ever-rolling silent hours  
 Will bring a time we shall not know,  
 When our young days of gathering flowers  
 Will be an hundred years ago.

T. L. PEACOCK (*Gryll Grange*).

### 719. IN HIS LAST BINN SIR PETER LIES

In his last binn Sir Peter lies,  
 Who knew not what it was to frown :  
 Death took him mellow, by surprise,  
 And in his cellar stopped him down.  
 Through all our land we could not boast  
 A knight more gay, more prompt than he,  
 To rise and fill a bumper toast,  
 And pass it round with three times three.

None better knew the feast to sway,  
 Or keep mirth's boat in better trim ;  
 For Nature had but little clay  
 Like that of which she moulded him.  
 The meanest guest that graced his board  
 Was there the freest of the free,  
 His bumper toast when Peter poured,  
 And passed it round with three times three.

He kept at true good humour's mark  
 The social flow of pleasure's tide :  
 He never made a brow look dark,  
 Nor caused a tear, but when he died.  
 No sorrow round his tomb should dwell :  
 More pleased his gay old ghost would be,  
 For funeral song, and passing bell,  
 To hear no sound but three times three.

T. L. PEACOCK (*Headlong Hall*).

### 720. IN THE DAYS OF OLD

In the days of old,  
 Lovers felt true passion,  
 Deeming years of sorrow  
 By a smile repaid.

Now the charms of gold,  
 Spells of pride and fashion,  
 Bid them say good-morrow  
 To the best-loved maid.

Through the forests wild,  
 O'er the mountains lonely,  
 They were never weary  
 Honour to pursue :  
 If the damsel smiled  
 Once in seven years only,  
 All their wanderings dreary  
 Ample guerdon knew.

Now one day's caprice  
 Weighs down years of smiling,  
 Youthful hearts are rovers,  
 Love is bought and sold :  
 Fortune's gifts may cease,  
 Love is less beguiling ;  
 Wiser were the lovers,  
 In the days of old.

T. L. PEACOCK (*Crotchet Castle*).

### 721. MARGARET LOVE PEACOCK

LONG night succeeds thy little day ;  
 O blighted blossom ! can it be,  
 That this grey stone and grassy clay  
 Have closed our anxious care of thee ?

The half-formed speech of artless thought,  
 That spoke a mind beyond thy years ;  
 The song, the dance, by nature taught ;  
 The sunny smiles, the transient tears ;

The symmetry of face and form,  
 The eye with light and life replete ;  
 The little heart so fondly warm ;  
 The voice so musically sweet—

These lost to hope, in memory yet  
 Around the hearts that loved thee cling,  
 Shadowing, with long and vain regret,  
 The too fair promise of thy spring. T. L. PEACOCK.

### 722. LOVE AND OPPORTUNITY

OH ! who art thou, so swiftly flying ?  
 My name is Love, the child replied ;  
 Swifter I pass than south winds sighing,  
 Or streams through summer vales that glide.  
 And who art thou, his flight pursuing ?  
 'Tis cold Neglect whom now you see :  
 The little god you there are viewing,  
 Will die, if once he's touched by me.

Oh ! who art thou so fast proceeding,  
 Ne'er glancing back thine eyes of flame ?  
 Marked but by few, through earth I'm speeding,  
 And Opportunity's my name.  
 What form is that, which scowls beside thee ?  
 Repentance is the form you see ;  
 Learn, then, the fate may yet betide thee :  
 She seizes them who seize not me.

T. L. PEACOCK (*Headlong Hall*).

## 723. 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 cel-  
 lars,  
 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 (*The Misfortunes of Elphin*).

## 724. FOR ENGLAND WHEN WITH FAVOURING GALE

For England, when, with favouring gale  
 Our gallant ship up channel steered,  
 And, scudding under easy sail,  
 The high blue western land appeared ;  
 To heave the lead the seaman sprung,  
 And to the pilot cheerly sung,  
 'By the deep nine.'

And bearing up to gain the port,  
 Some well-known object kept in view ;  
 An abbey-tower, a harbour-fort,  
 Or beacon, to the vessel true ;  
 While oft the lead the seaman flung,  
 And to the pilot cheerly sung,  
 'By the mark seven.'

And as the much-loved shore we near,  
 With transport we behold the roof  
 Where dwelt a friend or partner dear,  
 Of faith and love a matchless proof.  
 The lead once more the seaman flung,  
 And to the watchful pilot sung,  
 'Quarter less five.'

Now to her berth the ship draws nigh :  
 We shorten sail—she feels the tide—  
 'Stand clear the cable,' is the cry—  
 The anchor's gone ; we safely ride.  
 The watch is set, and through the night  
 We hear the seaman with delight  
 Proclaim 'All's well.'

W. PEARCE.

## 725. OENONE'S SONG : CUPID'S CURSE

FAIR and fair and twice so fair,  
 As fair as any may be,—  
 The fairest shepherd on our green,  
 A love for any lady.

My love is fair, my love is gay,  
 As fresh as bin the flowers in May,  
 And of my love my roundelay,  
 My merry, merry roundelay,  
 Concludes with Cupid's curse :  
 They that do change old love for new,  
 Pray gods they change for worse.

My love can pipe, my love can sing,  
 My love can many a pretty thing,  
 And of his lovely praises ring  
 My merry, merry roundelays.  
 Amen to Cupid's curse :  
 They that do change old love for new,  
 Pray gods they change for worse.

G. PEELE (*The Arraignment of Paris*).

## 726. HIS GOLDEN LOCKS TIME HATH TO SILVER TURNED

His golden locks time hath to silver turned ;  
 O time too swift, O swiftness never ceasing !  
 His youth 'gainst time and age hath ever spurned,  
 But spurned in vain ; youth waneth by increasing.  
 Beauty, strength, youth, are flowers but fading seen.  
 Duty, faith, love, are roots, and ever green.



His helmet now shall make a hive for bees,  
 And lovers' sonnets turned to holy psalms ;  
 A man at arms must now serve on his knees,  
 And feed on prayers, which are Age his alms :  
 But though from court to cottage he depart,  
 His saint is sure of his unspotted heart.

And when he saddest sits in homely cell,  
 He'll teach his swains this carol for a song :  
 'Blessed be the hearts that wish my Sovereign well,  
 Cursed be the souls that think her any wrong.'  
 Goddess, allow this aged man his right,  
 To be your beadsman now that was your knight.

G. PEELE (*Polyhymnia*).

### 727. 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,  
 Tatling 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 abandoned 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.

### 728. A COUNTRY LIFE

How sacred and how innocent  
 A country-life appears,  
 How free from tumult, discontent,  
 From flattery or fears !

This was the first and happiest life,  
 When man enjoyed himself ;  
 Till pride exchanged peace for  
 strife,  
 And happiness for pelf.

They knew no law nor physic then,  
 Nature was all their wit ;  
 And if there yet remain to men  
 Content, sure, this is it !

'Twas here the Poets were inspired,  
 Here taught the multitude ;  
 The brave they here with honour  
 fired,  
 And civilized the rude.  
 That golden age did entertain  
 No passion but of love ;  
 The thoughts of ruling and of gain  
 Did ne'er their fancies move !

K. PHILIPS.

## 729. FROM 'LENORE'

Ah, broken is the golden bowl! the spirit flown forever!  
 Let the bell toll!—a saintly soul floats on the Stygian river!  
 And, Guy de Vere, hast *thou* no tear?—weep now or nevermore!  
 See! on yon drear and rigid bier low lies thy love, Lenore!  
 Come let the burial rite be read—the funeral song be sung!—  
 An anthem for the queenliest dead that ever died so young—  
 A dirge for her the doubly dead in that she died so young.

'Wretches! ye loved her for her wealth and hated her for her pride,  
 And when she fell in feeble health, ye blessed her—that she died!  
 How *shall* the ritual, then, be read?—the requiem how be sung  
 By you—by yours, the evil eye,—by yours, the slanderous tongue  
 That did to death the innocence that died, and died so young?'  
*Peccavimus*; but rave not thus! and let a Sabbath song  
 Go up to God so solemnly the dead may feel no wrong!

E. A. POE.

## 730. ANNABEL LEE

It was many and many a year ago,  
 In a kingdom by the sea,  
 That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
 By the name of Annabel Lee;  
 And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
 Than to love and be loved by me.

I was a child and *she* was a child  
 In this kingdom by the sea;  
 But we loved with a love that was more than love—  
 I and my Annabel Lee;  
 With a love that the wingèd seraphs of heaven  
 Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,  
 In this kingdom by the sea,  
 A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling  
 My beautiful Annabel Lee;  
 So that her high-born kinsman came  
 And bore her away from me,  
 To shut her up in a sepulchre  
 In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in heaven,  
 Went envying her and me—  
 Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,  
 In this kingdom by the sea)  
 That the wind came out of the cloud by night,  
 Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
 Of those who were older than we—  
 Of many far wiser than we—  
 And neither the angels in heaven above,  
 Nor the demons down under the sea,  
 Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee.

For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee ;  
 And the stars never rise but I feel the bright eyes  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee ;  
 And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
 Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,  
 In the sepulchre there by the sea,  
 In her tomb by the sounding sea.

E. A. POE.

## 731. THE RAVEN

ONCE upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,  
 Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,  
 While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,  
 As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.  
 'Tis some visitor,' I muttered, 'tapping at my chamber door—  
 Only this, and nothing more.'

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak December,  
 And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.  
 Eagerly I wished the morrow ;—vainly I had sought to borrow  
 From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the lost Lenore—  
 For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore—  
 Nameless here for evermore.

And the silken sad uncertain rustling of each purple curtain  
 Thrilled me—filled me with fantastic terrors never felt before ;  
 So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood repeating,  
 'Tis some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door—  
 Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber door ;—  
 This it is, and nothing more.'

Presently my soul grew stronger ; hesitating then no longer,  
 'Sir,' said I, 'or Madam, truly your forgiveness I implore ;  
 But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came rapping,  
 And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my chamber door,  
 That I scarce was sure I heard you '—here I opened wide the door ; —  
 Darkness there, and nothing more.

Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there wondering, fearing,  
 Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortals ever dared to dream before ;  
 But the silence was unbroken, and the stillness gave no token,  
 And the only word there spoken was the whispered word, 'Lenore !'  
 This I whispered, and an echo murmured back the word, 'Lenore !'—  
 Merely this, and nothing more.

Back into the chamber turning, all my soul within me burning,  
 Soon again I heard a tapping somewhat louder than before.  
 'Surely,' said I, 'surely that is something at my window lattice :  
 Let me see, then, what thereat is, and this mystery explore—  
 Let my heart be still a moment and this mystery explore ;—  
 'Tis the wind and nothing more.'

Open here I flung the shutter, when, with many a flirt and flutter,  
 In there stepped a stately raven of the saintly days of yore ;  
 Not the least obeisance made he ; not a minute stopped or stayed he ;  
 But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my chamber door—  
 Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my chamber door—  
 Perched, and sat, and nothing more.

Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling,  
 By the grave and stern decorum of the countenance it wore,  
 'Though thy crest be shorn and shaven, thou,' I said, 'art sure no  
 craven,  
 Ghastly grim and ancient raven wandering from the Nightly shore—  
 Tell me what thy lordly name is on the Night's Plutonian shore !'  
 Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'

Much I marvelled this ungainly fowl to hear discourse so plainly,  
 Though its answer little meaning—little relevancy bore ;  
 For we cannot help agreeing that no living human being  
 Ever yet was blest with seeing bird above his chamber door—  
 Bird or beast upon the sculptured bust above his chamber door,  
 With such name as 'Nevermore'.

But the raven, sitting lonely on the placid bust, spoke only  
 That one word, as if his soul in that one word he did outpour.  
 Nothing further then he uttered ; not a feather then he fluttered—  
 Till I scarcely more than muttered, 'Other friends have flown  
 before—  
 On the morrow *he* will leave me, as my hopes have flown before.'  
 Then the bird said, 'Nevermore.'

Startled at the stillness broken by reply so aptly spoken,  
 'Doubtless,' said I, 'what it utters is its only stock and store,  
 Caught from some unhappy master whom unmerciful Disaster  
 Followed fast and followed faster till his songs one burden bore—  
 Till the dirges of his Hope that melancholy burden bore  
 Of "Never—nevermore".'

But the Raven still beguiling all my fancy into smiling,  
 Straight I wheeled a cushioned seat in front of bird, and bust, and  
 door ;  
 Then upon the velvet sinking, I betook myself to linking  
 Fancy unto fancy, thinking what this ominous bird of yore—  
 What this grim, ungainly, ghastly, gaunt and ominous bird of yore  
 Meant in croaking 'Nevermore'.

This I sat engaged in guessing, but no syllable expressing  
 To the fowl whose fiery eyes now burned into my bosom's core ;  
 This and more I sat divining, with my head at ease reclining  
 On the cushion's velvet lining that the lamplight gloated o'er,  
 But whose velvet violet lining with the lamplight gloating o'er,  
*She shall press, ah, nevermore !*

Then methought the air grew denser, perfumed from an unseen  
 censer  
 Swung by Seraphim whose footfalls tinkled on the tufted floor.  
 'Wretch,' I cried, 'thy God hath lent thee—by these angels he hath  
 sent thee

Respite—respite and nepenthe, from thy memories of Lenore !  
 Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe and forget this lost Lenore !'  
 Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'

'Prophet !' said I, 'thing of evil !—prophet still, if bird or devil !—  
 Whether Tempter sent, or whether tempest tossed thee here ashore,  
 Desolate yet all undaunted, on this desert land enchanted—  
 On this home by horror haunted—tell me truly, I implore—  
 Is there—*is* there balm in Gilead ?—tell me—tell me, I implore !'  
 Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'

'Prophet !' said I, 'thing of evil—prophet still, if bird or devil !  
 By that Heaven that bends above us—by that God we both adore—  
 Tell this soul with sorrow laden if, within the distant Aidenn,  
 It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels name Lenore—  
 Clasp a rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore.'  
 Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'

'Be that word our sign in parting, bird or fiend,' I shrieked, up-  
 starting—  
 'Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plutonian shore !  
 Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul hath spoken !  
 Leave my loneliness unbroken !—quit the bust above my door !  
 Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door !'  
 Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'

And the Raven, never fitting, still is sitting, still is sitting  
 On the pallid bust of Pallas just above my chamber door ;  
 And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that is dreaming,  
 And the lamplight o'er him streaming throws his shadow on the floor ;  
 And my soul from out that shadow that lies floating on the floor  
 Shall be lifted—nevermore !

E. A. POE.

### 732. FOR ANNIE

THANK Heaven ! the crisis—  
 The danger is past,  
 And the lingering illness  
 Is over at last—  
 And the fever called 'Living'  
 Is conquered at last.

Sadly, I know  
 I am shorn of my strength,  
 And no muscle I move  
 As I lie at full length—  
 But no matter !—I feel  
 I am better at length.

And I rest so composedly  
 Now, in my bed,  
 That any beholder  
 Might fancy me dead—  
 Might start at beholding me,  
 Thinking me dead.

The moaning and groaning,  
 The sighing and sobbing,  
 Are quieted now,  
 With that horrible throbbing  
 At heart:—ah, that horrible,  
 Horrible throbbing!

The sickness—the nausea—  
 The pitiless pain—  
 Have ceased, with the fever  
 That maddened my brain—  
 With the fever called 'Living'  
 That burned in my brain.

And oh! of all tortures  
 That torture the worst  
 Has abated—the terrible  
 Torture of thirst  
 For the naphthaline river  
 Of Passion accurst:—  
 I have drunk of a water  
 That quenches all thirst:—

Of a water that flows,  
 With a lullaby sound,  
 From a spring but a very few  
 Feet under ground—  
 From a cavern not very far  
 Down under ground.

And ah! let it never  
 Be foolishly said  
 That my room it is gloomy  
 And narrow my bed;  
 For man never slept  
 In a different bed—  
 And, *to sleep*, you must slumber  
 In just such a bed.

My tantalized spirit  
 Here blandly reposes,  
 Forgetting, or never  
 Regretting its roses—  
 Its old agitations  
 Of myrtles and roses;

For now, while so quietly  
 Lying, it fancies  
 A holier odour  
 About it, of pansies—  
 A rosemary odour,  
 Commingled with pansies—  
 With rue and the beautiful  
 Puritan pansies.

And so it lies happily,  
 Bathing in many  
 A dream of the truth  
 And the beauty of Annie—  
 Drowned in a bath  
 Of the tresses of Annie.

She tenderly kissed me,  
 She fondly caressed,  
 And then I fell gently  
 To sleep on her breast—  
 Deeply to sleep  
 From the heaven of her breast.

When the light was extinguished,  
 She covered me warm,  
 And she prayed to the angels  
 To keep me from harm—  
 To the queen of the angels  
 To shield me from harm.

And I lie so composedly,  
 Now, in my bed  
 (Knowing her love),  
 That you fancy me dead—  
 And I rest so contentedly,  
 Now, in my bed  
 (With her love at my breast),  
 That you fancy me dead—  
 That you shudder to look at me,  
 Thinking me dead;—

But my heart it is brighter  
 Than all of the many  
 Stars in the sky,  
 For it sparkles with Annie—  
 It glows with the light  
 Of the love of my Annie—  
 With the thought of the light  
 Of the eyes of my Annie.

E. A. POE.

## 733. A LITTLE LEARNING IS A DANGEROUS THING

A LITTLE learning is a dangerous thing ;  
 Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring :  
 These shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,  
 And drinking largely sobers us again.  
 Fired at first sight with what the Muse imparts,  
 In fearless youth we tempt the heights of arts,  
 While from the bounded level of our mind,  
 Short views we take, nor see the lengths behind ;  
 But more advanced, behold with strange surprise,  
 New distant scenes of endless science rise !  
 So pleased at first the towering Alps we try,  
 Mount o'er the vales, and seem to tread the sky,  
 The eternal snows appear already past,  
 And the first clouds and mountains seem the last :  
 But those attained, we tremble to survey  
 The growing labours of the lengthened way,  
 The increasing prospect tires our wandering eyes,  
 Hills peep o'er hills, and Alps on Alps arise !

A. POPE (*Essay on Criticism*).

## 734. THE MAN OF ROSS

ALL our praises why should Lords engross ?  
 Rise, honest Muse ! and sing the man of Ross.

Behold the market-place with poor o'erspread !  
 The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread ;  
 He feeds yon almshouse, neat, but void of state,  
 Where Age and Want sit smiling at the gate ;  
 Him portioned maids, apprenticed orphans blessed,  
 The young who labour, and the old who rest.  
 Is any sick ? the Man of Ross relieves,  
 Prescribes, attends, the medicine makes, and gives.  
 Is there a varianee ? enter but his door,  
 Balked are the courts, and contest is no more.  
 Despairing quacks with curses fled the place,  
 And vile attorneys, now a useless race.

Thrice happy man ! enabled to pursue  
 What all so wish, but want the power to do !  
 O say ! what sums that generous hand supply ?  
 What mines, to swell that boundless charity ?  
 Of debts and taxes, wife and children clear,  
 This man possessed—five hundred pounds a year.  
 Blush, grandeur, blush ! proud Courts, withdraw your blaze !  
 Ye little stars ! hide your diminished rays.

A. POPE (*Moral Essays*).

## 735. THE ART OF WRITING

BUT most by numbers judge a poet's song,  
 And smooth or rough, with them, is right or wrong :  
 In the bright Muse though thousand charms conspire,  
 Her voice is all these tuneful fools admire ;  
 Who haunt Parnassus but to please their ear,  
 Not mend their minds ; as some to church repair,  
 Not for the doctrine, but the music there.  
 These equal syllables alone require,  
 Though oft the ear the open vowels tire ;  
 While expletives their feeble aid do join ;  
 And ten low words oft creep in one dull line :  
 While they ring round the same unvaried chimes  
 With sure returns of still expected rhymes ;  
 Where'er you find ' the cooling western breeze ',  
 In the next line, it ' whispers through the trees ' :  
 If crystal streams ' with pleasing murmurs creep ',  
 The reader's threatened, not in vain, with ' sleep ' :  
 Then, at the last and only couplet fraught  
 With some unmeaning thing they call a thought,  
 A needless Alexandrine ends the song  
 That, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along.

True ease in writing comes from art, not chance,  
 As those move easiest who have learned to dance.

A. POPE (*Essay on Criticism*).

## 736. THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER

FATHER of all ! in every age,  
 In every clime adored,  
 By saint, by savage, and by sage,  
 Jehovah, Jove, or Lord !

Thou great First Cause, least  
 understood !  
 Who all my sense confined  
 To know but this, that Thou art  
 good,  
 And that myself am blind ;

Yet gave me in this dark estate,  
 To see the good from ill :  
 And binding nature fast in fate,  
 Left free the human will.

To Thee, whose temple is all space,  
 Whose altar, earth, sea, skies,  
 One chorus let all being raise ;  
 All nature's incense rise !

A. POPE.

## 737. ODE ON SOLITUDE

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



Whose herds with milk, whose fields with bread,  
 Whose flocks supply him with attire,  
 Whose trees in summer yield him shade,  
     In winter fire.

Blessed, who can unconcern'dly find  
 Hours, days, and years slide soft away,  
 In health of body, peace of mind,  
     Quiet by day,

Sound sleep by night ; study and ease,  
 Together mixed ; sweet recreation ;  
 And Innocence, which most does please  
     With meditation.

Thus let me live, unseen, unknown,  
 Thus unlamented let me die,  
 Steal from the world, and not a stone  
     Tell where I lie.

A. POPE.

## 738. ON MRS. CORBET

*Who died of a cancer in her breast.*

HERE rests a woman, good without pretence,  
 Blessed with plain reason, and with sober sense :  
 No conquests she, but o'er herself, desired,  
 No arts essayed, but not to be admired.  
 Passion and pride were to her soul unknown,  
 Convinced that virtue only is our own.  
 So unaffected, so composed a mind ;  
 So firm, so soft ; so strong, yet so refined ;  
 Heaven, as its purest gold, by tortures tried ;  
 The saint sustained it, but the woman died. A. POPE.

## 739. ON A CERTAIN LADY AT COURT

[HENRIETTA HOWARD, COUNTESS OF SUFFOLK]

I KNOW the thing that 's most uncommon  
 (Envy, be silent, and attend) ;  
 I know a reasonable woman,  
     Handsome and witty, yet a friend.

Not warped by passion, awed by rumour,  
 Not grave through pride, or gay through folly ;  
 An equal mixture of good humour,  
     And sensible soft melancholy.

'Has she no faults then,' Envy says, 'Sir ?'  
 Yes, she has one, I must aver ;

When all the world conspires to praise her,  
     The woman 's deaf, and does not hear ! A. POPE.

## 740. FROM THE 'ESSAY ON MAN'

KNOW then thyself, presume not God to scan ;  
The proper study of mankind is Man.

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,  
As, to be hated, needs but to be seen.

For modes of faith let graceless zealots fight ;  
His can't be wrong whose life is in the right ;  
In faith and hope the world will disagree,  
But all mankind's concern is charity.

Honour and shame from no condition rise ;  
Act well your part, there all the honour lies.

What can ennoble sots, or slaves, or cowards ?  
Alas ! not all the blood of all the Howards.

A wit's a feather, and a chief a rod ;  
An honest man's the noblest work of God.

If parts allure thee, think how Bacon shined,  
The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind :  
Or ravished with the whistling of a name,  
See Cromwell, damned to everlasting fame.

Know then this truth (enough for Man to know),  
Virtue alone is happiness below.

A. POPE.

## 741. LO, THE POOR INDIAN

Lo, the poor Indian ! whose untutored mind  
Sees God in clouds, or hears him in the wind ;  
His soul, proud science never taught to stray  
Far as the solar walk, or milky way ;  
Yet simple nature to his hope has given,  
Behind the cloud-topped hill, a humbler heaven ;  
Some safer world in depth of woods embraced,  
Some happier island in the watery waste,  
Where slaves once more their native land behold,  
No fiends torment, no Christians thirst for gold.  
To Be, contents his natural desire,  
He asks no angel's wing, no seraph's fire ;  
But thinks, admitted to that equal sky,  
His faithful dog shall bear him company.

A. POPE (*Essay on Man*).742. INTENDED FOR SIR ISAAC NEWTON IN  
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

NATURE and Nature's Laws lay hid in Night :  
God said, *Let Newton be!* and all was Light.

A. POPE.

## 743. EPITAPH ON GAY IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

OF manners gentle, of affections mild ;  
 In wit, a man ; simplicity, a child :  
 With native humour tempering virtuous rage,  
 Formed to delight at once and lash the age :  
 Above temptation, in a low estate,  
 And uncorrupted, even among the great :  
 A safe companion, and an easy friend,  
 Unblamed through life, lamented in thy end.  
 These are thy honours ! not that here thy bust  
 Is mixed with heroes, or with kings thy dust ;  
 But that the worthy and the good shall say,  
 Striking their pensive bosoms—' *Here lies Gay.*'

A. POPE.

## 744. ADDISON (1732-4)

STATESMAN, yet friend to Truth ! of soul sincere,  
 In action faithful, and in honour clear ;  
 Who broke no promise, served no private end,  
 Who gained no title, and who lost no friend ;  
 Ennobled by himself, by all approved,  
 And praised, unenvied, by the Muse he loved.

A. POPE (*Moral Essays*).

## 745. FROM THE PROLOGUE TO 'CATO'

To wake the soul by tender strokes of art,  
 To raise the genius, and to mend the heart ;  
 To make mankind in conscious virtue hold,  
 Live o'er each scene, and be what they behold :  
 For this the Tragic Muse first trod the stage,  
 Commanding tears to stream through every age ;  
 Tyrants no more their savage nature kept,  
 And foes to virtue wondered how they wept.  
 Our author shuns by vulgar springs to move  
 The hero's glory, or the virgin's love ;  
 In pitying love, we but our weakness show,  
 And wild ambition well deserves its woe.  
 Here tears shall flow from a more generous cause,  
 Such tears as patriots shed for dying laws :  
 He bids your breast with ancient ardour rise,  
 And calls forth Roman drops from British eyes.  
 Virtue confessed in human shape he draws,  
 What Plato thought, and godlike Cato was :  
 No common object to your sight displays,  
 But what with pleasure Heaven itself surveys,

A brave man struggling in the storms of fate,  
And greatly falling, with a falling State.

Your scene precariously subsists too long  
On French translation, and Italian song,  
Dare to have sense yourselves; assert the stage,  
Be justly warmed with your own native rage:  
Such plays alone should win a British ear,  
As Cato's self had not disdained to hear. A. POPE.

746. VITAL SPARK OF HEAVENLY FLAME

VITAL spark of heavenly flame!  
Quit, oh quit this mortal frame;  
Trembling, hoping, lingering, flying,  
Oh the pain, the bliss of dying!  
Cease, fond Nature, cease thy strife,  
And let me languish into life.

Hark! they whisper; Angels say,  
'Sister Spirit, come away!'  
What is this absorbs me quite?  
Steals my senses, shuts my sight,  
Drowns my spirits, draws my breath?  
Tell me, my Soul, can this be death?

The world recedes; it disappears!  
Heaven opens on my eyes! my ears  
With sounds seraphic ring:  
Lend, lend your wings! I mount! I fly!  
O Grave! where is thy victory?  
O Death! where is thy sting? A. POPE.

747. ADDISON (1735)

WERE there one whose fires  
True genius kindles, and fair fame inspires;  
Blest with each talent and each art to please,  
And born to write, converse, and live with ease:  
Should such a man, too fond to rule alone,  
Bear, like the Turk, no brother near the throne,  
View him with scornful, yet with jealous eyes,  
And hate for arts that caused himself to rise;  
Damn with faint praise, assent with civil leer,  
And, without sneering, teach the rest to sneer;  
Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike,  
Just hint a fault, and hesitate dislike;  
Alike, reserved to blame, or to commend,  
A timorous foe, and a suspicious friend;

Dreading even fools, by flatterers besieged,  
 And so obliging that he ne'er obliged ;  
 Like Cato, give his little Senate laws,  
 And sit attentive to his own applause ;  
 While wits and Templars every sentence raise,  
 And wonder with a foolish face of praise—  
 Who but must laugh, if such a man there be ?  
 Who would not weep, if Atticus were he !

A. POPE (*Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot*).

#### 748. FROM 'THE OLD MAN'S WISH'

WITH a pudding on Sunday, and stout humming liquor,  
 And remnants of Latin to puzzle the vicar ;  
 With a hidden reserve of Burgundy wine  
 To drink the King's health as oft as I dine :  
 May I govern my passions with an absolute sway,  
 And grow wiser and better as my strength wears away,  
 Without gout or stone, by a gentle decay.

With Plutarch and Horace and one or two more  
 Of the best wits that lived in the ages before ;  
 With a dish of roast mutton, not venison nor teal,  
 And clean, though coarse, linen at every meal :  
 May I govern my passions with an absolute sway,  
 And grow wiser and better as my strength wears away,  
 Without gout or stone, by a gentle decay. W. POPE.

#### 749. DEATH

'Twas man himself  
 Brought Death into the world ; and man himself  
 Gave keenness to his darts, quickened his pace,  
 And multiplied destruction on mankind.

One murder made a villain,  
 Millions a hero. Princes were privileged  
 To kill, and numbers sanctified the crime. B. PORTEUS.

#### 750. THE VICAR

HIS talk was like a spring, which runs  
 With rapid change from rocks to roses :  
 It slipped from politics to puns,  
 It passed from Mahomet to Moses ;  
 Beginning with the laws which keep  
 The planets in their radiant courses,  
 And ending with some precept deep  
 For dressing eels, or shoeing horses.

His sermon never said or showed  
 That Earth is foul, that Heaven is gracious,  
 Without refreshment on the road  
 From Jerome or from Athanasius :  
 And sure a righteous zeal inspired  
 The hand and head that penned and planned them,  
 For all who understood admired,  
 And some who did not understand them.  
 W. M. PRAED (*Every-day Characters*).

## 751. STANZAS TO THE SPEAKER ASLEEP

SLEEP, Mr. Speaker ; it's surely fair  
 If you don't in your bed, that you should in your chair.  
 Longer and longer still they grow,  
 Tory and Radical, Aye and No ;  
 Talking by night, and talking by day ;—  
 Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sleep, sleep while you may !

Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; slumber lies  
 Light and brief on a Speaker's eyes ;  
 Fielden or Finn, in a minute or two,  
 Some disorderly thing will do ;  
 Riot will chase repose away ;—  
 Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sleep, sleep while you may :

Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; Cobbett will soon  
 Move to abolish the sun and moon ;  
 Hume, no doubt, will be taking the sense  
 Of the House on a saving of thirteen pence ;  
 Grattan will growl, or Baldwin bray ;—  
 Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sleep, sleep while you may !

Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; dream of the time  
 When loyalty was not quite a crime ;  
 When Grant was a pupil in Canning's school,  
 When Palmerston fancied Wood a fool ;  
 Lord, how principles pass away !  
 Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sleep, sleep while you may !

Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sweet to men  
 Is the sleep that cometh but now and then ;  
 Sweet to the sorrowful, sweet to the ill,  
 Sweet to the children that work in a mill,  
 You have more need of sleep than they ;—  
 Sleep, Mr. Speaker ; sleep, sleep while you may !

W. M. PRAED.

## 752. SCHOOL AND SCHOOLFELLOWS

' Floreat Etona '

TWELVE years ago I made a mock  
 Of filthy trades and traffics :  
 I wondered what they meant by stock ;  
 I wrote delightful sapphics ;  
 I knew the streets of Rome and Troy ;  
 I supped with Fates and Furies,—  
 Twelve years ago I was a boy,  
 A happy boy, at Drury's.

Twelve years ago !—how many a thought  
 Of faded pains and pleasures  
 Those whispered syllables have brought  
 From Memory's hoarded treasures !  
 The fields, the farms, the bats, the books,  
 The glories and disgraces,  
 The voices of dear friends, the looks  
 Of all familiar faces !

Kind *Mater* smiles again to me,  
 As bright as when we parted ;  
 I seem again the frank, the free,  
 Stout-limbed and simple-hearted !  
 Pursuing every idle dream,  
 And shunning every warning ;  
 With no hard work but Bovney stream,  
 No chill except Long Morning :

Now stopping Harry Vernon's ball  
 That rattled like a rocket ;  
 Now hearing Wentworth's ' Fourteen all ! '  
 And striking for the pocket ;  
 Now feasting on a cheese and fitch,—  
 Now drinking from the pewter ;  
 Now leaping over Chalvey ditch,  
 Now laughing at my tutor.

Where are my friends ? I am alone ;  
 No playmate shares my beaker :  
 Some lie beneath the churchyard stone,  
 And some—before the Speaker ;  
 And some compose a tragedy,  
 And some compose a rondeau ;  
 And some draw sword for liberty,  
 And some draw pleas for John Doe.

Tom Mill was used to blacken eyes  
 Without the fear of sessions ;  
 Charles Medlar loathed false quantities  
 As much as false professions ;

Now Mill keeps order in the land,  
 A magistrate pedantic ;  
 And Medlar's feet repose unscanned  
 Beneath the wide Atlantic.

Wild Nick, whose oaths made such a din,  
 Does Dr. Martext's duty ;  
 And Mullion, with that monstrous chin,  
 Is married to a Beauty ;  
 And Darrell studies, week by week,  
 His Mant, and not his Manton ;  
 And Ball, who was but poor at Greek,  
 Is very rich at Canton.

And I am eight-and-twenty now ;—  
 The world's cold chains have bound me ;  
 And darker shades are on my brow,  
 And sadder scenes around me :  
 In Parliament I fill my seat,  
 With many other noodles ;  
 And lay my head in Jermyn Street,  
 And sip my hock at Boodle's.

But often when the cares of life  
 Have sent my temples aching,  
 When visions haunt me of a wife,  
 When duns await my waking,  
 When Lady Jane is in a pet,  
 Or Hoby in a hurry,  
 When Captain Hazard wins a bet,  
 Or Beaulieu spoils a curry,—

For hours and hours I think and talk  
 Of each remembered hobby ;  
 I long to lounge in Poets' Walk,  
 To shiver in the Lobby ;  
 I wish that I could run away  
 From House and Court and Levée,  
 Where bearded men appear to-day  
 Just Eton boys grown heavy,—

That I could bask in childhood's sun,  
 And dance o'er childhood's roses,  
 And find huge wealth in one pound one,  
 Vast wit in broken noses,  
 And play Sir Giles at Datchet Lane,  
 And call the milkmaids Houris,—  
 That I could be a boy again,—  
 A happy boy,—at Drury's.

W. M. PRAED.



## 753. A LETTER OF ADVICE

*(From Miss Medora Trevilian, at Padua, to Miss Araminta Vavasour, in London.)*

You tell me you're promised a lover,  
 My own Araminta, next week ;  
 Why cannot my fancy discover  
 The hue of his coat and his cheek ?  
 Alas ! if he look like another,  
 A vicar, a banker, a beau,  
 Be deaf to your father and mother,  
 My own Araminta, say 'No !'

Miss Lane, at her Temple of Fashion,  
 Taught us both how to sing and to speak,  
 And we loved one another with passion,  
 Before we had been there a week :  
 You gave me a ring for a token ;  
 I wear it wherever I go ;  
 I gave you a chain—is it broken ?  
 My own Araminta, say 'No !'

O think of our favourite cottage,  
 And think of our dear Lalla Rookh !  
 How we shared with the milkmaids their pottage,  
 And drank of the stream from the brook ;  
 How fondly our loving lips faltered,  
 'What further can grandeur bestow ?'  
 My heart is the same ;—is yours altered ?  
 My own Araminta, say 'No !'

Remember the thrilling romances  
 We read on the bank in the glen ;  
 Remember the suitors our fancies  
 Would picture for both of us then.  
 They wore the red cross on their shoulder,  
 They had vanquished and pardoned their foe—  
 Sweet friend, are you wiser or colder ?  
 My own Araminta, say 'No !'

You know when Lord Rigmartole's carriage  
 Drove off with your cousin Justine,  
 You wept, dearest girl, at the marriage,  
 And whispered, 'How base she has been !'  
 You said you were sure it would kill you  
 If ever your husband looked so ;  
 And you will not apostatize,—will you ?  
 My own Araminta, say 'No !'

When I heard I was going abroad, love,  
 I thought I was going to die ;  
 We walked arm-in-arm to the road, love,  
 We looked arm-in-arm to the sky ;  
 And I said, ' When a foreign postilion  
 Has hurried me off to the Po,  
 Forget not Medora Trevilian :  
 My own Araminta, say " No ! " ' ,

We parted ! but sympathy's fetters  
 Reach far over valley and hill ;  
 I muse o'er your exquisite letters,  
 And feel that your heart is mine still ;  
 And he who would share it with me, love,—  
 The richest of treasures below,—  
 If he's not what Orlando should be, love,  
 My own Araminta, say ' No ! '

If he wears a top-boot in his wooing,  
 If he comes to you riding a cob,  
 If he talks of his baking or brewing,  
 If he puts up his feet on the hob,  
 If he ever drinks port after dinner,  
 If his brow or his breeding is low,  
 If he calls himself ' Thompson ' or ' Skinner ' ,—  
 My own Araminta, say ' No ! '

If he studies the news in the papers  
 While you are preparing the tea,  
 If he talks of the damp or the vapours,  
 While moonlight lies soft on the sea,  
 If he's sleepy while you are capricious,  
 If he has not a musical ' Oh ! ' ,  
 If he does not call *Werther* delicious,—  
 My own Araminta, say ' No ! '

If he ever sets foot in the City  
 Among the stockbrokers and Jews,  
 If he has not a heart full of pity,  
 If he don't stand six feet in his shoes,  
 If his lips are not redder than roses,  
 If his hands are not whiter than snow,  
 If he has not the model of noses,—  
 My own Araminta, say ' No ! '

If he speaks of a tax or a duty,  
 If he does not look grand on his knees,  
 If he's blind to a landscape of beauty,  
 Hills, valleys, rocks, waters, and trees,

If he dotes not on desolate towers,  
 If he likes not to hear the blast blow,  
 If he knows not the language of flowers,—  
 My own Araminta, say 'No!'

He must walk—like a god of old story  
 Come down from the home of his rest;  
 He must smile—like the sun in his glory  
 On the bud, he loves ever the best;  
 And oh! from its ivory portal  
 Like music his soft speech must flow!  
 If he speak, smile, or walk like a mortal,  
 My own Araminta, say 'No!'

Don't listen to tales of his bounty,  
 Don't hear what they say of his birth,  
 Don't look at his seat in the county,  
 Don't calculate what he is worth;  
 But give him a theme to write verse on,  
 And see if he turns out his toe;  
 If he's only an excellent person,—  
 My own Araminta, say 'No!' W. M. PRAED.

## 754. EPITAPH

NOBLES and heralds, by your leave,  
 Here lies what once was Matthew Prior,  
 The son of Adam and of Eve;  
 Can Bourbon or Nassau claim higher? M. PRIOR.

## 755. THE DYING ADRIAN TO HIS SOUL

POOR, little, pretty, fluttering thing,  
 Must we no longer live together?  
 And dost thou prune thy trembling wing,  
 To take thy flight thou knowst not whither?  
 Thy humorous vein, thy pleasing folly,  
 Lies all neglected, all forgot:  
 And pensive, wavering, melancholy,  
 Thou dread'st and hop'st thou know'st not what.  
 M. PRIOR.

## 756. THE MERCHANT, TO SECURE HIS TREASURE

THE merchant, to secure his treasure,  
 Conveys it in a borrowed name:  
 Euphelia serves to grace my measure,  
 But Chloe is my real flame.

My softest verse, my darling lyre,  
 Upon Euphelia's toilet lay—  
 When Chloe 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 Chloe's eyes.

Fair Chloe blushed : Euphelia frowned :  
 I sung, and gazed ; I played, and trembled :  
 And Venus to the Loves around  
 Remark'd how ill we all dissembled. M. PRIOR.

## 757. EPIGRAM

To John I owed great obligation ;  
 But John unhappily thought fit  
 To publish it to all the nation,  
 Sure John and I are more than quit. M. PRIOR.

758. THE LADY WHO OFFERS HER LOOKING-GLASS  
TO VENUS

VENUS, take my votive glass ;  
 Since I am not what I was,  
 What from this day I shall be,  
 Venus, let me never see. M. PRIOR.

## 759. NATURE AND ART

WHAT I speak, my fair Chloe, and what I write, shows  
 The difference there is betwixt nature and art :  
 I court others in verse—but I love thee in prose ;  
 And they have my whimsies—but thou hast my heart.

The God of us verse-men, you know, child, the Sun,  
 How after his journeys he sets up his rest :  
 If at morning o'er Earth 'tis his fancy to run ;  
 At night he declines on his Thetis's breast.

So when I am wearied with wandering all day,  
 To thee, my delight, in the evening I come :  
 No matter what beauties I saw in my way,  
 They were but my visits, but thou art my home.

Then finish, dear Chloe, this pastoral war ;  
 And let us like Horace and Lydia agree ;  
 For thou art a girl as much brighter than her,  
 As he was a poet sublimer than me. M. PRIOR.

## 760. WHAT SEEMS SO DARK TO THY DIM SIGHT

WHAT seems so dark to thy dim sight  
 May be a shadow, seen aright,  
 Making some brightness doubly bright.

The cry wrung from thy spirit's pain  
 May echo on some far-off plain,  
 And guide a wanderer home again.

Fail—yet rejoice ; because no less  
 The failure that makes thy distress  
 May teach another full success.

And trust,—as if already plain,  
 How just thy share of loss and pain  
 Is for another fuller gain.

A. A. PROCTER (*Light and Shade*).

## 761. COME, ALL YE FEATHERY PEOPLE

COME, all ye feathery people of mid air,  
 Who sleep 'midst rocks, or on the mountain summits  
 Lie down with the wild winds ; and ye who build  
 Your homes amidst green leaves by grottos cool ;  
 And ye who on the flat sands hoard your eggs  
 For suns to ripen, come ! O phoenix rare !  
 If death hath spared thee, or philosophic search  
 Permit thee still to own thy haunted nest,  
 Perfect Arabian ;—lonely nightingale !  
 Dark creature, who art silent all day long,  
 But when pale eve unseals thy clear throat, 'loosest  
 Thy twilight music on the dreamy boughs  
 Until they waken ; and thou, cuckoo bird,  
 Who art the ghost of sound, having no shape  
 Material, but dost wander far and near,  
 Like untouched Echo whom the woods deny  
 Sight of her love,—come all to my slow charm !  
 Come, thou sky-climbing bird, wakener of morn,  
 Who springest like a thought unto the sun,  
 And from his golden floods dost gather wealth  
 (Epithalamium and Pindaric song),  
 And with it enrich our ears ; come all to me,  
 Beneath the chamber where my lady lies,  
 And, in your several musics, whisper—Love !

B. W. PROCTER.

## 762. KING DEATH

KING DEATH was a rare old fellow,  
 He sat where no sun could shine,  
 And he lifted his hand so yellow,  
 And poured out his coal-black wine.  
 Hurrah, for the coal-black wine !

There came to him many a maiden  
 Whose eyes had forgot to shine,  
 And widows with grief o'erladen,  
 For a draught of his coal-black wine.  
 Hurrah, for the coal-black wine !

The scholar left all his learning,  
 The poet his fancied woes,  
 And the beauty her bloom returning  
 Like life to the fading rose.  
 Hurrah, for the coal-black wine !

All came to the rare old fellow,  
 Who laughed till his eyes dropped brine,  
 And he gave them his hand so yellow,  
 And pledged them in Death's black wine.  
 Hurrah, for the coal-black wine !

B. W. PROCTER.

## 763. ADDRESS TO THE OCEAN

O THOU vast Ocean ! ever-sounding sea !  
 Thou symbol of a drear immensity !  
 Thou thing that windest round the solid world  
 Like a huge animal, which, downward hurled  
 From the black clouds, lies weltering and alone,  
 Lashing and writhing till its strength be gone.  
 Thy voice is like the thunder, and thy sleep  
 Is as a giant's slumber, loud and deep.  
 Thou speakest in the east and in the west  
 At once, and on thy heavily-laden breast  
 Fleets come and go, and shapes that have no life  
 Or motion, yet are moved and meet in strife.  
 The earth hath naught of this : no chance or change  
 Ruffles its surface, and no spirits dare  
 Give answer to the tempest-wakened air ;  
 But o'er its wastes the weakly tenants range  
 At will, and wound its bosom as they go :  
 Ever the same, it hath no ebb, no flow ;  
 But in their stated rounds the seasons come,  
 And pass like visions to their wonted home ;  
 And come again, and vanish ; the young Spring  
 Looks ever bright with leaves and blossoming ;

And Winter always winds his sullen horn,  
 When the wild Autumn, with a look forlorn,  
 Dies in his stormy manhood; and the skies  
 Weep, and flowers sicken, when the summer flies.

Oh! wonderful thou art, great element:  
 And fearful in thy spleeny humours bent,  
 And lovely in repose; thy summer form  
 Is beautiful, and when thy silver waves  
 Make music in earth's dark and winding caves,  
 I love to wander on thy pebbled beach,  
 Marking the sunlight at the evening hour,  
 And hearken to the thoughts thy waters teach—  
 Eternity—Eternity—and Power.      B. W. PROCTER.

764. ON THE DOWAGER LADY E. H.—D

VAIN are the charms of white and red,  
 Which divide the blooming fair;  
 Give me the nymph whose snow is spread  
 Not o'er her breast, but hair.

Of smoother cheeks, the winning grace,  
 As open forces I defy;  
 But in the wrinkles of her face  
 Cupids, as in ambush, lie.

If naked eyes set hearts on blaze,  
 And amorous warmth inspire;  
 Through glass who darts her pointed rays,  
 Lights up a fiercer fire!

W. PULTENEY, EARL OF BATH.

765. LORD, WHEN WE LEAVE THE WORLD

LORD, when we leave the world and come to Thee,  
 How dull, how slug are we!

If Pleasure beckon with her balmy hand,  
 Her beck's a strong command:

If Honour calls us with her courtly breath,  
 An hour's delay is death:

If Profit's golden-fingered charm inveigles,  
 We clip more swift than eagles:

Let Auster weep, or blustering Boreas roar,  
 Till eyes or lungs be sore:

Let Neptune swell, until his dropsy sides  
 Burst into broken tides:

How fast and fearless do our footsteps flee!  
 The lightfoot roebuck's not so swift as we.

F. QUARLES.

## 766. ON THE LIFE AND DEATH OF MAN

THE world's a theatre. The earth, a stage  
Placed in the midst : where both prince and page,  
Both rich and poor, fool, wise man, base and high,  
All act their parts in life's short tragedy.

Our life's a tragedy. Those secret rooms,  
Wherein we 'tire us, are our mothers' wombs.  
The music ushering in the play is mirth  
To see a man-child brought upon the earth.  
That fainting gasp of breath which first we vent,  
Is a dumb show ; presents the argument.  
Our new-born cries, that new-born griefs bewray,  
Are the sad prologue of the ensuing play.  
False hopes, true fears, vain joys, and fierce distracts,  
Are like the music that divides the Acts.  
Time holds the glass, and when the hour's outrun,  
Death strikes the epilogue, and the play is done.

F. QUARLES.

## 767. SWEET PHOSPHOR

WILL 't ne'er be morning ? Will that promised light  
Ne'er break, and clear those clouds of night ?  
Sweet Phosphor, bring the day,  
Whose conquering ray  
May chase these fogs : sweet Phosphor, bring the day.

Let those have night that sily love to immure  
Their cloistered crimes, and sin secure ;  
Let those have night that blush to let men know  
The baseness they ne'er blush to do ;  
Let those have night that love to take a nap,  
And loll in Ignorance's lap :  
Let those whose eyes, like owls, abhor the light,  
Let those have night, that love the night :  
Sweet Phosphor, bring the day :  
How sad delay

Afflicts dull hopes ! sweet Phosphor, bring the day.

F. QUARLES.

## 768. HOW SHOULD I YOUR TRUE LOVE KNOW

<p>As you came from the holy land Of Walsingham, Met you not with my true love, By the way, as you came ?</p>	<p>How shall I know your true love, That have met many one, As I went to the holy land, That have come, that have gone ?</p>
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She is neither white, nor brown ;  
 But as the heavens fair !  
 There is none hath a form so divine,  
 In the earth, or the air !

Such a one did I meet, good sir,  
 Such an angelic face,  
 Who like a queen, like a nymph,  
 did appear  
 By her gait, by her grace.

She hath left me here all alone,  
 All alone, as unknown ;  
 Who sometimes did me lead with  
 herself,  
 And me loved as her own.

What's the cause that she leaves  
 you alone,  
 And a new way doth take ;  
 Who loved you once as her own,  
 And her joy did you make ?

I have loved her all my youth,  
 But now old, as you see,  
 Love likes not the falling fruit  
 From the withered tree.

Know that Love is a careless  
 child,  
 And forgets promise past ;  
 He is blind ; he is deaf when he  
 list,  
 And in faith never fast !

His desire is a dureless content,  
 And a trustless joy.  
 He is won, with a world of despair ;  
 And is lost, with a toy.

Of womenkind such indeed is the  
 love,—  
 Or the word love abused ;  
 Under which many childish desires  
 And conceits are excused.

But true love is a durable fire,  
 In the mind ever burning,  
 Never sick, never old, never dead,  
 From itself never turning. SIR W. RALEGH.

### 769. THE CONCLUSION

EVEN such is Time, which takes in trust  
 Our youth, our joys, our all we have,  
 And pays us but with earth and dust ;  
 Who, in the dark and silent grave,  
 When we have wandered all our ways,  
 Shuts up the story of our days ;  
 But from this earth, this grave, this dust,  
 My God shall raise me up, I trust. SIR W. RALEGH.

### 770. HIS PILGRIMAGE

GIVE me my scallop-shell of quiet,  
 My staff of faith to walk upon,  
 My scrip of joy, immortal diet,  
 My bottle of salvation,  
 My gown of glory, hope's true  
 gage ;  
 And thus I'll take my pilgrimage.  
 Blood must be my body's balmer ;  
 No other balm will there be  
 given ;  
 Whilst my soul, like quiet palmer,  
 Travelleth towards the land of  
 heaven ;

Over the silver mountains,  
 Where spring the nectar fountains:  
 There will I kiss  
 The bowl of bliss ;  
 And drink mine everlasting fill  
 Upon every milken hill.  
 My soul will be a-dry before ;  
 But, after, it will thirst no more.  
 Of death and judgement, heaven  
 and hell  
 Who oft doth think, must needs  
 die well. SIR W. RALEGH.

771. THE NYMPH'S REPLY TO THE PASSIONATE  
SHEPHERD

If all the world and love were young,  
And truth in every shepherd's tongue,  
These pretty pleasures might me move  
To live with thee and be thy love.

But Time drives flocks from field to fold,  
When rivers rage and rocks grow cold ;  
And Philomel becometh dumb ;  
The rest complains of cares to come.

The flowers do fade ; and wanton fields  
To wayward winter reckoning yields :  
A honey tongue, a heart of gall,  
Is fancy's spring, but sorrow's fall.

Thy gowns, thy shoes, thy beds of roses,  
Thy cap, thy kirtle, and thy posies  
Soon break, soon wither, soon forgotten,  
In folly ripe, in reason rotten.

Thy belt of straw and ivy-buds,  
Thy coral clasps and amber studs,  
All these in me no means can move  
To come to thee and be thy love.

But could youth last, and love still breed,  
Had joys no date, nor age no need,  
Then these delights my mind might move  
To live with thee and be thy love.

SIR W. RALEGH.<sup>1</sup>

## 772. LIFE'S TRAGI-COMEDY

WHAT is our life ? A play of passion :  
Our mirth ? The music of division.  
Our mothers' wombs the tiring-houses be,  
Where we are dressed for this short comedy.  
Heaven the judicious sharp spectator is,  
That sits and marks still who do act amiss.  
Our graves that hide us from the searching sun,  
Are like drawn curtains when the play is done.  
Thus march we, playing, to our latest rest ;  
Only we die in earnest ; that's no jest.

SIR W. RALEGH.

<sup>1</sup> See Marlowe's poem, No. 638.

## 773. AN THOU WERE MY AIN THING

AN thou were my ain thing,  
 I would love thee, I would love thee ;  
 An thou were my ain thing  
 How dearly I would love thee.

Like bees that suck the morning dew,  
 Frae flowers of sweetest scent and hue,  
 Sae wad I dwell upon thy mow  
 And gar the gods envy me.

Sae lang 's I had the use of light  
 I'd on thy beauties feast my sight,  
 Syne in saft whispers through the night  
 I'd tell how much I loved thee.

I'd grasp thee to this breast of mine,  
 Whilst thou like ivy or the vine  
 Around my stronger limbs should twine,  
 Formed handy to defend thee.

A. RAMSAY.

## 774. THE POET

FROM witty men and mad  
 All poetry conception had.

No sires but these will poetry admit :  
 Madness or wit.

This definition poetry doth fit :  
 It is witty madness, or mad wit.

Only these two poetic heat admits :  
 A witty man, or one that's out of's wits.

T. RANDOLPH.

## 775. I HAVE A MISTRESS, FOR PERFECTIONS RARE

I HAVE a mistress, for perfections rare  
 In every eye, but in my thought most fair.  
 Like tapers on the altar shine her eyes ;  
 Her breath is the perfume of sacrifice ;  
 And wheresoe'er my fancy would begin,  
 Still her perfection lets religion in.  
 We sit and talk, and kiss away the hours  
 As chastely as the morning dews kiss flowers :  
 I touch her, like my beads, with devout care,  
 And come unto my courtship as my prayer.

T. RANDOLPH.

## 776. WE BE THREE POOR MARINERS

WE be three poor mariners, Newly come from the seas ; We spend our lives in jeopardy, While others live at ease. Shall we go dance the round, around ? Shall we go dance the round ? And he that is a bully-boy Come, pledge me on this ground !	We care not for those martial men That do our states disdain ; But we care for those merchant men That do our states maintain : To them we dance this round, around, To them we dance this round ; And he that is a bully-hoy Come, pledge me on this ground !
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T. RAVENS CROFT.

## 777. AN ITALIAN SONG

DEAR is my little native vale,  
 The ring-dove builds and murmurs there ;  
 Close by my cot she tells her tale  
 To every passing villager.  
 The squirrel leaps from tree to tree,  
 And shells his nuts at liberty.

In orange groves and myrtle-howers,  
 That breathe a gale of fragrance round,  
 I charm the fairy-footed hours  
 With my loved lute's romantic sound ;  
 Or crowns of living laurel weave  
 For those that win the race at eve.

The shepherd's horn at break of day,  
 The ballet danced in twilight glade,  
 The canzonet and roundelay  
 Sung in the silent greenwood shade ;  
 These simple joys, that never fail,  
 Shall bind me to my native vale.

S. ROGERS.

## 778. MELANCHOLY

Go—you may call it madness, folly ;  
 You shall not chase my gloom away.  
 There's such a charm in melancholy,  
 I would not, if I could, be gay.

Oh, if you knew the pensive pleasure  
 That fills my bosom when I sigh,  
 You would not rob me of a treasure  
 Monarchs are too poor to buy !

S. ROGERS.

## 779. MINE BE A COT BESIDE THE HILL

MINE be a cot beside the hill ;  
 A bee-hive's hum shall soothe my ear ;  
 A willow 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.

## 780. NATURE'S GIFT

NATURE denied him much,  
 But gave him at his birth what most he values :  
 A passionate love for music, sculpture, painting,  
 For poetry, the language of the gods,  
 For all things here, or grand or beautiful,  
 A setting sun, a lake among the mountains,  
 The light of an ingenuous countenance,  
 And, what transcends them all, a noble action.

S. ROGERS (*Italy*).

## 781. VENICE

THERE is a glorious City in the sea.  
 The sea is in the broad, the narrow streets,  
 Ebbing and flowing ; and the salt sea-weed  
 Clings to the marble of her palaces.  
 No track of men, no footsteps to and fro,  
 Lead to her gates. The path lies o'er the sea,  
 Invisible ; and from the land we went,  
 As to a floating city—steering in,  
 And gliding up her streets as in a dream,  
 So smoothly, silently—by many a dome  
 Mosque-like, and many a stately portico,  
 The statues ranged along an azure sky ;  
 By many a pile in more than eastern pride,  
 Of old the residence of merchant-kings ;  
 The fronts of some, though Time had shattered them,  
 Still glowing with the richest hues of art,  
 As though the wealth within them had run o'er.

S. ROGERS (*Italy*).

## 782. THE ROBIN'S GRAVE

TREAD lightly here, for here, 'tis said,  
 When piping winds are hushed around,  
 A small note wakes from underground,  
 Where now his tiny bones are laid.  
 No more in lone and leafless groves,  
 With ruffled wing and faded breast,  
 His friendless, homeless spirit roves;  
 —Gone to the world where birds are blessed!  
 Where never cat glides o'er the green,  
 Or schoolboy's giant form is seen;  
 But Love, and Joy, and smiling Spring  
 Inspire their little souls to sing.

S. ROGERS.

## 783. 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 that 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.

## 784. A BIRTHDAY

My heart is like a singing bird  
 Whose nest is in a watered shoot;  
 My heart is like an apple-tree  
 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.

## 785. 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 noonday 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.

## 786. ROSES FOR THE FLUSH OF YOUTH

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.

## 787. WHEN I AM DEAD, MY DEAREST

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.

## 788. THE BLESSED DAMOZEL

THE blessed 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.

Her seemed 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 them-  
selves

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 pulse 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-robcs for  
them

Who are just born, being dead.

' He shall fear, haply, 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.

## 789. FROM 'OUR BLESSED LADY'S LULLABY'

UPON my lap my Sovereign sits,  
 And sucks upon my breast ;  
 Meanwhile his love sustains my life,  
 And gives my body rest.  
 Sing lullaby, my little boy !  
 Sing lullaby, my life's joy !

When thou hast taken thy repast,  
 Repose, my babe, on me !  
 So may thy mother and thy nurse  
 Thy cradle also be.  
 Sing lullaby, my little boy !  
 Sing lullaby, my life's joy !

My babe, my bliss, my child, my choice,  
 My fruit, my flower, and bud ;  
 My Jesus, and my only joy,  
 The sum of all my good !  
 Sing lullaby, my little boy !  
 Sing lullaby, my life's joy !

R. ROWLANDS.

## 790. SIDNEY

A SWEET attractive kind of grace,  
 A full assurance given by looks,  
 Continual comfort in a face,  
 The lineaments of Gospel books !  
 I trow that countenance cannot lie  
 Whose thoughts are legible in the eye.

Was ever eye did see that face,  
 Was ever ear did hear that tongue,  
 Was ever mind did mind his grace  
 That ever thought the travel long ?  
 But eyes and ears, and every thought  
 Were with his sweet perfections caught

Did never love so sweetly breathe  
 In any mortal breast before,  
 Did never Muse inspire beneath  
 A poet's brain with finer store ;  
 He wrote of love with high conceit,  
 And beauty reared above her height.  
 M. ROYDON (*Friend's Passion for his Astrophill*).

791. ALAS, FOR MAN!

ALAS, for man! who hath no sense  
Of gratefulness nor confidence,  
But still rejects and raves;  
That all God's love can hardly  
win  
One soul from taking pride in  
sin,  
And pleasures over graves.

But teach me, God, a milder  
thought,  
Lest I, of all Thy blood hath bought,  
Least honourable be;  
And this that moves me to condemn,  
Be rather want of love for them,  
Than jealousy for Thee.

J. RUSKIN (*Mont Blanc Revisited*).

792. DORINDA

DORINDA's sparkling wit and eyes  
United, cast too fierce a light,  
Which blazes high, but quickly dies;  
Pains not the heart, but hurts the sight.

Love is a calmer, gentler joy;  
Smooth are his looks, and soft his pace;  
Her Cupid is a blackguard boy,  
That runs his link full in your face.

C. SACKVILLE, EARL OF DORSET.

793. MAY THE AMBITIOUS EVER FIND

MAY the ambitious ever find  
Success in crowds and noise,  
While gentle love does fill my mind  
With silent real joys.

May knaves and fools grow rich and great,  
And the world think them wise,  
While I lie dying at her feet,  
And all that world despise!

Let conquering kings new triumphs raise,  
And melt in court delights;  
Her eyes can give much brighter days,  
Her arms much softer nights.

C. SACKVILLE, EARL OF DORSET.

794. THE ADVICE

PHYLLIS, for shame, let us improve  
A thousand several ways,  
These few short minutes stolen by  
love  
From many tedious days.

Whilst you want courage to  
despise  
The censure of the grave,  
For all the tyrants in your eyes,  
Your heart is but a slave.

My love is full of noble pride,  
 And never will submit  
 To let that fop, Discretion, ride  
 In triumph over wit.

False friends I have, as well as you,  
 That daily counsel me  
 Vain frivolous trifles to pursue,  
 And leave off loving thee.

When I the least belief bestow  
 On what such fools advise,  
 May I be dull enough to grow  
 Most miserably wise.

C. SACKVILLE, EARL OF DORSET.

795. A BALLAD WHEN AT SEA

To you, fair ladies, now at land,  
 We men at sea indite;  
 But, first, would have you understand  
 How hard it is to write.  
 The Muses now, and Neptune too,  
 We must implore, to write to you,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la!

But though the Muses should be kind,  
 And fill our empty brain:  
 Yet if rough Neptune cause the wind  
 To rouse the azure main,  
 Our paper, pens, and ink, and we  
 Roll up and down our ships at sea,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la!

Then if we write not by each post,  
 Think not that we're unkind!  
 Nor yet conclude that we are lost  
 By Dutch, by French, or wind.  
 Our griefs will find a speedier way:  
 The tide shall bring them twice a day,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la!

The King, with wonder and surprise,  
 Will think the sea's grown bold,  
 For that the tide does higher rise  
 Than e'er it did of old.  
 But let him know that 'tis our tears  
 Send floods of grief to Whitehall Stairs,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la!

Should Count Toulouse but come to know  
 Our sad and dismal story,  
 The French would scorn so weak a foe,  
 Where they can get no glory,  
 For what resistance can they find  
 From men, who've left their hearts behind,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la!

To pass our tedious time away  
 We throw the merry Main,  
 Or else at serious Ombre play.  
 But why should we in vain  
 Each other's ruin thus pursue ?  
 We were undone when we left you,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la !

When any mournful tune you hear,  
 That dies in every note,  
 As if it sighed for each man's care,  
 For being so remote,  
 Then think how often love we've made  
 To you, while all those tunes were played  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la !

Let wind and weather do their worst,  
 Be you to us but kind,  
 Let Frenchmen vapour, Dutchmen curse,  
 No sorrows we shall find.  
 'Tis then no matter how things go,  
 Nor who 's our friend, nor who 's our foe,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la !

Thus, having told you all our loves,  
 And likewise all our fears,  
 In hopes this declaration moves  
 Some pity to our tears,  
 Let 's hear of no inconstancy ;  
 We have too much of that at sea,  
 With a fa, la, la, la, la !

C. SACKVILLE, EARL OF DORSET.

#### 796. MISERY

His face was lean, and some-deal pined away,  
 And eke his hands consumèd to the bone,  
 But what his body was I cannot say,  
 For on his carcass raiment had he none  
 Save clouts and patches, piecèd one by one ;  
 With staff in hand, and scrip on shoulders cast,  
 His chief defence against the winter's blast.

His food, for most, was wild fruits of the tree,  
 Unless sometime some crumbs fell to his share,  
 Which in his wallet long, God wot, kept he  
 As on the which full daintily would he fare ;  
 His drink, the running stream, his cup, the bare  
 Of his palm closed ; his bed, the hard cold ground ;  
 To this poor life was Misery ybound.

T. SACKVILLE, EARL OF DORSET (*The Mirroure for Magistrates*).

## 797. ODE ON HEARING THE DRUM

I HATE that drum's discordant sound,  
 Parading round, and round, and round :  
 To thoughtless youth it pleasure yields,  
 And lures from cities and from fields,  
 To sell their liberty for charms  
 Of tawdry lace and glittering arms,  
 And when Ambition's voice commands,  
 To march, and fight, and fall in foreign lands.

I hate that drum's discordant sound,  
 Parading round, and round, and round :  
 To me it talks of ravaged plains,  
 And burning towns, and ruined swains,  
 And mangled limbs, and dying groans,  
 And widows' tears and orphans' moans ;  
 And all that misery's hand bestows  
 To fill the catalogue of human woes.

J. SCOTT.

## 798. A WEARY LOT IS THINE

' 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 turned his charger as he spake,  
 Upon the river shore,  
 He gave his bridle-reins a shake,  
 Said, ' Adieu for evermore,  
 My Love !  
 And adieu for evermore.'  
 SIR W. SCOTT (*Rokeby*).

## 799. COUNTY GUY

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 trilled all day,  
 Sits hushed 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 (*Quentin Durward*).

## 800. AVE MARIA

AVE MARIA ! maiden mild !  
 Listen to a maiden's prayer !  
 Thou canst hear though from the  
 wild,  
 Thou canst save amid despair.  
 Safe may we sleep beneath thy  
 care,  
 Though banished, outcast, and  
 reviled ;  
 Maiden ! hear a maiden's prayer—  
 Mother, hear a suppliant child !  
 Ave Maria !

Ave Maria ! undefiled !  
 The flinty couch we now must  
 share,  
 Shall seem with down of eider piled,  
 If thy protection hover there.  
 The murky cavern's heavy air  
 Shall breathe of balm if thou  
 hast smiled ;  
 Then, Maiden ! hear a maiden's  
 prayer ;  
 Mother, list a suppliant child !  
 Ave Maria !

Ave Maria ! stainless styled !  
 Foul demons of the earth and air  
 From this their wonted haunt exiled,  
 Shall flee before thy presence fair.  
 We bow us to our lot of care,  
 Beneath thy guidance reconciled ;  
 Hear for a maid a maiden's prayer,  
 And for a father hear a child !

Ave Maria !

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lady of the Lake*).

## 801. BREATHES THERE THE MAN WITH SOUL SO DEAD

BREATHES there the man, with soul so dead,  
 Who never to himself hath said,  
 This is my own, my native land !  
 Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,  
 As home his footsteps he hath turned,  
 From wandering on a foreign strand !  
 If such there breathe, go, mark him well ;  
 For him no Minstrel raptures swell ;  
 High though his titles, proud his name,  
 Boundless his wealth as wish can claim ;  
 Despite those titles, power, and pelf,  
 The wretch, concentrated all in self,  
 Living, shall forfeit fair renown,  
 And, doubly dying, shall go down  
 To the vile dust, from whence he sprung,  
 Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung.  
 O Caledonia ! stern and wild,  
 Meet nurse for a poetic child !  
 Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,  
 Land of the mountain and the flood,

Land of my sires ! what mortal hand  
 Can e'er untie the filial band,  
 That knits me to thy rugged strand !  
 Still as I view each well-known scene,  
 Think what is now, and what hath been,  
 Seems as, to me, of all bereft,  
 Sole friends thy woods and streams were left ;  
 And thus I love them better still,  
 Even in extremity of ill.

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lay of the Last Minstrel*).

### 802. 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 rain-drop 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 searest,  
 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 (*The Lady of the Lake*).

### 803. IF THOU WOULD'ST VIEW FAIR MELROSE ARIGHT

If thou would'st view fair Melrose aright,  
 Go visit it by the pale moonlight ;  
 For the gay beams of lightsome day  
 Gild, but to flout, the ruins grey.  
 When the broken arches are black in night,  
 And each shafted oriel glimmers white ;  
 When the cold light's uncertain shower  
 Streams on the ruined central tower ;  
 When buttress and buttress, alternately,  
 Seem framed of ebon and ivory ;  
 When silver edges the imagery,  
 And the scrolls that teach thee to live and die ;  
 When distant Tweed is heard to rave,  
 And the owlet to hoot o'er the dead man's grave,  
 Then go—but go alone the while—  
 Then view St. David's ruined pile ;  
 And home returning, soothly swear,  
 Was never scene so sad and fair !

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lay of the Last Minstrel*).



## 804. LOVE

IN peace, Love tunes the shepherd's reed ;  
 In war, he mounts the warrior's steed ;  
 In halls, in gay attire is seen ;  
 In hamlets, dances on the green.  
 Love rules the court, the camp, the grove,  
 And men below, and saints above ;  
 For love is heaven, and heaven is love.

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lay of the Last Minstrel*).

## 805. LOOK NOT THOU ON BEAUTY'S CHARMING

LOOK not thou on beauty's charming,  
 Sit thou still when kings are arming,  
 Taste not when the wine-cup glistens,  
 Speak not when the people listens,  
 Stop thine ear against the singer,  
 From the red gold keep thy finger ;  
 Vacant heart and hand and eye,  
 Easy live and quiet die.

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Bride of Lammermoor*).

## 806. THE OUTLAW

O BRIGNAL 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, Brignal 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, 'Brignal 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 peep of light ;  
 His blast is heard at merry morn,  
 And mine at dead of night.'  
 Yet sung she, 'Brignal banks are fair,  
 And Greta woods are gay ;  
 I would I were with Edmund there,  
 To reign his Queen of May !

With burnished 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 bear ;  
 But when the beetle sounds his hum,  
 My comrades take the spear.  
 And O ! though Brignal banks be fair,  
 And Greta woods be gay,  
 Yet mickle must the maiden dare  
 Would reign 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.  
 Yet Brignal banks are fresh and fair,  
 And Greta woods are green,  
 And you may gather garlands there  
 Would grace a summer queen.'

SIR W. SCOTT (*Rokeby*).

### 807. OH, HUSH THEE, MY BABIE

Oh, hush thee, my babie, thy sire was a knight,  
 Thy mother a lady, both lovely and bright ;  
 The woods and the glens, from the towers which we see,  
 They all are belonging, dear babie, to thee.  
 O ho ro, i ri ri, cadul gu lo,  
 O ho ro, i ri ri, &c.

Oh, fear not the bugle, though loudly it blows,  
 It calls but the warders that guard thy repose;  
 Their bows would be bended, their blades would be red,  
 Ere the step of a foeman drew near to thy bed.

O ho ro, i ri ri, &c.

Oh, hush thee, my babie, the time soon will come  
 When thy sleep shall be broken by trumpet and drum;  
 Then hush thee, my darling, take rest while you may,  
 For strife comes with manhood, and waking with day.

O ho ro, i ri ri, &c.

SIR W. SCOTT.

### 808. O WOMAN! IN OUR HOURS OF EASE

O WOMAN! in our hours of ease,  
 Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,  
 And variable as the shade  
 By the light quivering aspen made;  
 When pain and anguish wring the brow,  
 A ministering angel thou!

SIR W. SCOTT (*Marmion*).

### 809. PROUD MAISIE

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 glow-worm o'er grave and stone  
 Shall light thee steady.  
 The owl from the steeple sing  
 "Welcome, proud lady".'

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Heart of Midlothian*).

### 810. SOLDIER, REST! THY WARFARE O'ER

SOLDIER, rest! thy warfare o'er,  
 Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking;  
 Dream of battled fields no more,  
 Days of danger, nights of waking.  
 In our isle's enchanted hall  
 Hands unseen thy couch are strewing,  
 Fairy strains of music fall,  
 Every sense in slumber dewing.  
 Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er,  
 Dream of fighting fields no more:  
 Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking,  
 Morn of toil, nor night of waking.

No rude sound shall reach thine ear,  
 Armour's clang, or war-steed champing,  
 Trump nor pibroch summon here  
 Mustering clan, or squadron tramping.  
 Yet the lark's shrill fife may come  
 At the daybreak from the fallow,  
 And the bittern sound his drum,  
 Booming from the sedgy shallow.  
 Ruder sounds shall none be near,  
 Guards nor warders challenge here,  
 Here 's no war-steed's neigh and champing,  
 Shouting clans or squadrons stamping.  
 Huntsman, rest ! the chase is done ;  
 While our slumbrous spells assail ye,  
 Dream not, with the rising sun,  
 Bugles here shall sound reveillé.  
 Sleep ! the deer is in his den ;  
 Sleep ! thy hounds are by thee lying ;  
 Sleep ! nor dream in yonder glen,  
 How thy gallant steed lay dying.  
 Huntsman, rest ! thy chase is done,  
 Think not of the rising sun,  
 For at dawning to assail ye  
 Here no bugles sound reveillé.

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lady of the Lake*).

### 811. SOUND, SOUND THE CLARION

SOUND, sound the clarion, fill the fife !  
 To all the sensual world proclaim,  
 One crowded hour of glorious life  
 Is worth an age without a name.

SIR W. SCOTT (*Old Mortality*).

### 812. THE WAY WAS LONG, THE WIND WAS COLD

THE way was long, the wind was cold,  
 The Minstrel was infirm and old ;  
 His withered cheek, and tresses grey,  
 Seemed to have known a better day ;  
 The harp, his sole remaining joy,  
 Was carried by an orphan boy.  
 The last of all the Bards was he,  
 Who sung of Border chivalry ;  
 For, welladay ! their date was fled,  
 His tuneful brethren all were dead ;  
 And he, neglected and oppressed,  
 Wished to be with them, and at rest.  
 No more, on prancing palfrey borne,  
 He carolled, light as lark at morn ;

No longer courted and caressed,  
 High placed in hall, a welcome guest,  
 He poured to lord and lady gay  
 The unpremeditated lay :  
 Old times were changed, old manners gone ;  
 A stranger filled the Stuarts' throne ;  
 The bigots of the iron time  
 Had called his harmless art a crime.  
 A wandering Harper, scorned and poor,  
 He begged his bread from door to door,  
 And tuned, to please a peasant's ear,  
 The harp a king had loved to hear.

SIR W. SCOTT (*The Lay of the Last Minstrel*).

### 813. REBECCA'S HYMN

WHEN Israel, of the Lord beloved,  
 Out from the land of bondage came,  
 Her fathers' God before her moved,  
 An awful guide in smoke and flame.  
 By day, along the astonished lands  
 The cloudy pillar glided slow ;  
 By night, Arabia's crimsoned sands  
 Returned the fiery column's glow.  
 There rose the choral hymn of praise,  
 And trump and timbrel answered keen,  
 And Zion's daughters poured their lays  
 With priest's and warrior's voice between.  
 No portents now our foes amaze,  
 Forsaken Israel wanders lone :  
 Our fathers would not know Thy ways,  
 And Thou hast left them to their own.  
 But present still, though now unseen !  
 When brightly shines the prosperous day,  
 Be thoughts of Thee a cloudy screen  
 To temper the deceitful ray.  
 And oh, when stoops on Judah's path  
 In shade and storm the frequent night,  
 Be Thou, long-suffering, slow to wrath,  
 A burning and a shining light !  
 Our harps we left by Babel's streams,  
 The tyrant's jest, the Gentile's scorn ;  
 No censor round our altar beams,  
 And mute are timbrel, harp, and horn.  
 But Thou hast said, The blood of goat,  
 The flesh of rams I will not prize ;  
 A contrite heart, a humble thought,  
 Are Mine accepted sacrifice.

SIR W. SCOTT (*Ivanhoe*).

## 814. JOCK OF 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,  
 Sae comely to be seen '—  
 But aye she loot the tears down fa'  
 For Jock of Hazeldean.<sup>1</sup>

' 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 aye 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 aye she loot the tears down fa'  
 For Jock of Hazeldean.

The kirk was decked at morning-tide,  
 The tapers glimmered 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.

## 815. CHILD AND MAIDEN

<p>AH, Chloris ! that I now could          sit          As unconcerned as when          Your infant beauty could beget          No pleasure, nor no pain !          When I the dawn used to admire,          And praised the coming day,          I little thought the growing fire          Must take my rest away.</p>	<p>Your charms in harmless child-          hood lay,          Like metals in the mine ;          Age from no face took more away          Than youth concealed in thine.          But as your charms insensibly          To their perfection prest,          Fond love as unperceived did fly,          And in my bosom rest.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> The first stanza is ancient.

My passion with your beauty grew ; And Cupid at my heart Still, as his mother favoured you, Threw a new flaming dart :	Each gloried in their wanton part ; To make a lover, he Employed the utmost of his art— To make a beauty, she. SIR C. SEDLEY.
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## 816. LOVE STILL HAS SOMETHING OF THE SEA

Lovestill has something of the sea From whence his mother rose ; No time his slaves from doubt can free, Nor give their thoughts repose.	They are becalmed in clearest days, And in rough weather tossed ; They wither under cold delays, Or are in tempests lost.
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One while they seem to touch the port :  
 Then straight into the main,  
 Some angry wind in cruel sport,  
 Their vessel drives again.

SIR C. SEDLEY.

## 817. PHYLLIS

PHYLLIS is my only joy, Faithless as the winds or seas, Sometimes cunning, sometimes coy, Yet she never fails to please : If with a frown I am cast down, Phyllis, smiling And beguiling, Makes me happier than before.	Though alas ! too late I find Nothing can her fancy fix ; Yet the moment she is kind I forgive her all her tricks, Which though I see, I can't get free : She deceiving, I believing, What need lovers wish for more ? SIR C. SEDLEY.
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## 818. ARIEL'S SONG

COME unto these yellow sands,  
 And then take hands :  
 Curtsied when you have, and kissed,—  
 The wild waves whist,—  
 Foot it featly here and there ;  
 And, sweet sprites, the burden bear.  
 Hark, hark !  
 The watch-dogs bark :  
 Hark, hark ! I hear  
 The strain of strutting Chanticleer.  
 W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Tempest*, Act I, Sc. ii).

## 819. FULL FATHOM FIVE THY FATHER LIES

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 (*The Tempest*, Act. I, Sc. ii).

## 820. WE ARE SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS ARE MADE ON

OUR revels now are ended. These our actors,  
 As I foretold you, were all spirits and  
 Are melted into air, into thin air :  
 And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,  
 The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces,  
 The solemn temples, the great globe itself,  
 Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve  
 And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,  
 Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff  
 As dreams are made on, and our little life  
 Is rounded with a sleep.  
 W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Tempest*, Act IV, Sc. i).

## 821. WHERE THE BEE SUCKS

WHERE the bee sucks, there suck I :  
 In a cowslip's bell I lie ;  
 There I couch when owls do cry.  
 On the bat's back I do fly  
 After summer merrily :  
 Merrily, merrily shall I live now  
 Under the blossom that hangs on the bough.  
 W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Tempest*, Act v, Sc. i).

## 822. WHO IS SILVIA

WHO is Silvia ? what is she ?  
 That all our swains commend her ?  
 Holy, fair, and wise is she ;  
 The heaven such grace did lend her,  
 That she might admirèd be.  
 Is she kind as she is fair ?  
 For beauty lives with kindness :  
 Love doth to her eyes repair,  
 To help him of his blindness ;  
 And, being helped, inhabits there.



Then to Silvia let us sing,  
 That Silvia is excelling ;  
 She excels each mortal thing  
 Upon the dull earth dwelling ;  
 To her let us garlands bring.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Act IV, Sc. ii).

## 823. AYE, BUT TO DIE

AYE, but to die, and go we know not where ;  
 To lie in cold obstruction and to rot ;  
 This sensible warm motion to become  
 A kneaded clod ; and the delighted spirit  
 To bathe in fiery floods, or to reside  
 In thrilling region of thick-ribbèd ice ;  
 To be imprisoned in the viewless winds,  
 And blown with restless violence round about  
 The pendant world ; or to be worse than worst  
 Of those that lawless and incertain thoughts  
 Imagine howling : 'tis too horrible !  
 The weariest and most loathèd worldly life  
 That age, ache, penury and imprisonment  
 Can lay on nature is a paradise  
 To what we fear of death.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Measure for Measure*, Act III, Sc. i).

## 824. MAN

MAN, proud man,  
 Dressed in a little brief authority,  
 Most ignorant of what he's most assured,  
 His glassy essence, like an angry ape,  
 Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven  
 As make the angels weep ; who, with our spleens,  
 Would all themselves laugh mortal.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Measure for Measure*, Act II, Sc. ii).

## 825. SIGH NO MORE, LADIES

SIGH no more, ladies, sigh no more, Men were deceivers ever ; One foot in sea, and one on shore ; To one thing constant never. Then sigh not so, But let them go, And be you blithe and bonny, Converting all your sounds of woe Into Hey nonny, nonny.	Sing no more ditties. Sing no mo Of dumps so dull and heavy ; The fraud of men was ever so, Since summer first was leavy. Then sigh not so, But let them go, And be you blithe and bonny, Converting all your sounds of woe Into Hey nonny, nonny.
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W. SHAKESPEARE (*Much Ado about Nothing*, Act II, Sc. iii).

## 826. ON A DAY

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,  
 Wished 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 Ethiop were;  
 And deny himself for Jove,  
 Turning mortal for thy love.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Love's Labour's Lost*, Act IV, Sc. iii).

## 827. SPRING

WHEN daisies pied and violets blue  
 And lady-smocks all silver-white  
 And cuckoo-buds of yellow hue

Do paint the meadows with delight,  
 The cuckoo then, on every tree,  
 Mocks married men; for thus sings he,  
 Cuckoo;

Cuckoo, cuckoo: O, word of fear,  
 Unpleasing to a married ear!

When shepherds pipe on oaten straws,  
 And merry larks are ploughmen's clocks,  
 When turtles tread, and rooks, and daws,  
 And maidens bleach their summer smocks,  
 The cuckoo then, on every tree,  
 Mocks married men; for thus sings he,  
 Cuckoo;

Cuckoo, cuckoo; O, word of fear,  
 Unpleasing to a married ear!

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Love's Labour's Lost*, Act V, Sc. ii).

## 828. 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 nipped, and ways be foul,  
 Then nightly sings the staring owl,  
 Tu-who;

Tu-whit, tu-who—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,  
 Tu-who ;

Tu-whit, tu-who—a merry note,  
 While greasy Joan doth keel the pot.  
 W. SHAKESPEARE (*Love's Labour's Lost*, Act v, Sc. ii).

## 829. I NEVER MAY BELIEVE

I NEVER may believe  
 These antique fables, nor these fairy toys.  
 Lovers and madmen have such seething brains,  
 Such shaping fantasies, that apprehend  
 More than cool reason ever comprehends.  
 The lunatic, the lover, and the poet,  
 Are of imagination all compact :  
 One sees more devils than vast hell can hold,  
 That is, the madman ; the lover, all as frantic,  
 Sees Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt :  
 The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,  
 Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven ;  
 And, as imagination bodies forth  
 The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen  
 Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing  
 A local habitation and a name.  
 Such tricks hath strong imagination,  
 That, if it would but apprehend some joy,  
 It comprehends some bringer of that joy ;  
 Or in the night, imagining some fear,  
 How easy is a bush supposed a bear !  
 W. SHAKESPEARE (*A Midsummer-Night's Dream*, Act v, Sc. i).

## 830. THE FAIRIES' SONG

YOU spotted snakes with double tongue,  
 Thorny hedge-hogs, be not seen ;  
 Newts, and blind-worms, do no wrong ;  
 Come not near our fairy queen.  
 Philomel, with melody,  
 Sing in our sweet lullaby ;  
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby ; lulla, lulla, lullaby :  
 Never harm,  
 Nor spell, nor charm,  
 Come our lovely lady nigh ;  
 So, good night, with lullaby.

Weaving spiders come not here ;  
 Hence, you long-legged spinners, hence !  
 Beetles black, approach not near ;  
 Worm nor snail, do no offence.  
 Philomel, with melody,  
 Sing in our sweet lullaby ;  
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby ; lulla, lulla, lullaby :  
 Never harm,  
 Nor spell, nor charm,  
 Come our lovely lady nigh ;  
 So, good night, with lullaby.  
*Fairy.* Hence, away ! now all is well.  
 One aloof stand sentinel.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*A Midsummer-Night's Dream*, Act II, Sc. ii).

### 831. HOW SWEET THE MOONLIGHT SLEEPS

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank !  
 Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music  
 Creep in our ears : soft stillness and the night  
 Become the touches of sweet harmony.  
 Sit, Jessica : look, how the floor of heaven  
 Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold :  
 There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st  
 But in his motion like an angel sings,  
 Still quiring to the young-eyed cherubins ;  
 Such harmony is in immortal souls ;  
 But, whilst this muddy vesture of decay  
 Doth grossly close it in, we cannot hear it.

The man that hath no music in himself,  
 Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,  
 Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils,  
 The motions of his spirit are dull as night,  
 And his affections dark as Erebus :  
 Let no such man be trusted.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Merchant of Venice*, Act v, Sc. i).

### 832. TELL ME WHERE IS FANCY BRED

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

Reply, reply.

It is engendered 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 (*The Merchant of Venice*, Act III, Sc. ii).

## 833. THE QUALITY OF MERCY

THE quality of mercy is not strained,  
 It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven  
 Upon the place beneath : it is twice blessed ;  
 It blesseth him that gives and him that takes :  
 'Tis mightiest in the mightiest ; it becomes  
 The thronè monarch better than his crown ;  
 His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,  
 The attribute to awe and majesty,  
 Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings ;  
 But mercy is above this sceptred sway,  
 It is enthronè in the hearts of kings,  
 It is an attribute to God himself,  
 And earthly power doth then show likest God's  
 When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew,  
 Though justice be thy plea, consider this,  
 That in the course of justice none of us  
 Should see salvation : we do pray for mercy,  
 And that same prayer doth teach us all to render  
 The deeds of mercy.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Merchant of Venice*, Act IV, Sc. i).

## 834. ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

ALL the world's a stage,  
 And all the men and women merely players :  
 They have their exits and their entrances ;  
 And one man in his time plays many parts,  
 His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,  
 Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.  
 And then the whining schoolboy, with his satchel,  
 And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
 Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,  
 Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
 Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,  
 Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,  
 Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,  
 Seeking the bubble reputation  
 Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,  
 In fair round belly with good capon lined,  
 With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut,  
 Full of wise saws and modern instances ;  
 And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts  
 Into the lean and slippered pantaloon,  
 With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,  
 His youthful hose well saved, a world too wide  
 For his shrunk shank ; and his big manly voice,

Turning again toward childish treble, pipes  
 And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,  
 That ends this strange eventful history,  
 Is second childishness and mere oblivion,  
 Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*As You Like It*, Act II, Sc. vii).

### 835. BLOW, BLOW, THOU WINTER WIND

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 remembered 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 (*As You Like It*, Act II, Sc. vii).

### 836. IT WAS A LOVER AND HIS LASS

It was a lover and his lass,

With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,

That o'er the green corn-field did pass,

In the spring time, the only pretty ring time,

When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding ;

Sweet lovers love the spring.

Between the acres of the rye,

With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,

These pretty country folks would lie,

In the spring time, &c.

This carol they began that hour,

With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,

How that a life was but a flower

In the spring time, &c.

And therefore take the present time,

With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino ;  
For love is crowned with the prime

In the spring time, the only pretty ring time,  
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding ;  
Sweet lovers love the spring.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*As You Like It*, Act v, Sc. iii).

### 837. UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE

UNDER the greenwood tree  
Who loves to lie with me,  
And turn 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.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*As You Like It*, Act II, Sc. v).

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.

### 838. WHY SHOULD THIS A DESERT BE

WHY should this a desert be ?  
For it is unpeopled ? No ;  
Tongues I'll hang on every tree,  
That shall civil sayings show.  
Some, how brief the life of man  
Runs his erring pilgrimage,  
That the stretching of a span  
Buckles in his sum of age ;  
Some, of violated vows  
'Twixt the souls of friend and  
friend :

But upon the fairest boughs,  
Or at every sentence' end,

W. SHAKESPEARE (*As You Like It*, Act III, Sc. ii).

Will I Rosalinda write ;  
Teaching all that read to  
know  
The quintessence of every sprite  
Heaven would in little show.  
Therefore Heaven Nature charged  
That one body should be filled  
With all graces wide enlarged :  
Nature presently distilled  
Helen's cheek, but not her heart,  
Cleopatra's majesty,  
Atalanta's better part,  
Sad Lucretia's modesty.

### 839. COME AWAY, DEATH

COME away, come away, death,  
And in sad cypress 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.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Twelfth Night*, Act II, Sc. iv).

Not a flower, not a flower sweet,  
On my black coffin let there be  
strown ;  
Not a friend, not a friend greet  
My poor corse, 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.

## 840. IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE

IF music be the food of love, play on ;  
 Give me excess of it, that, surfeiting,  
 The appetite may sicken, and so die.  
 That strain again ! it had a dying fall :  
 O ! it came o'er my ear like the sweet sound  
 That breathes upon a bank of violets,  
 Stealing and giving odour. Enough ! no more :  
 'Tis not so sweet now as it was before.  
 O spirit of love ! how quick and fresh art thou,  
 That, notwithstanding thy capacity  
 Receiveth as the sea, nought enters there,  
 Of what validity and pitch so'er,  
 But falls into abatement and low price,  
 Even in a minute : so full of shapes is fancy,  
 That it alone is high fantastical.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Twelfth Night*, Act I, Sc. i).

## 841. O MISTRESS MINE, WHERE ARE YOU ROAMING

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 (*Twelfth Night*, Act II, Sc. iii).

## 842. SHE NEVER TOLD HER LOVE

SHE never told her love,  
 But let concealment, like a worm i' the bud,  
 Feed on her damask cheek : she pined in thought,  
 And with a green and yellow melancholy,  
 She sat like Patience on a monument,  
 Smiling at grief.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Twelfth Night*, Act II, Sc. iv).



## 843. COME BUY

LAWN as white as driven snow ;  
 Cypress black as e'er was crow ;  
 Gloves as sweet as damask roses ;  
 Masks for faces and for noses ;  
 Bugle-bracelet, necklace-amber,  
 Perfume for a lady's chamber ;  
 Golden quoifs and stomachers,  
 For my lads to give their dears ;  
 Pins and poking-sticks of steel ;  
 What maids lack from head to heel :  
 Come buy of me, come ; come buy, come buy ;  
 Buy, lads, or else your lasses cry :  
 Come buy.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Winter's Tale*, Act IV, Sc. iii).

## 844. O PROSERPINA

O PROSERPINA !

For the flowers now that frighted thou let'st fall  
 From Dis's wagon ! daffodils  
 That come before the swallow dares, and take  
 The winds of March with beauty ; violets dim,  
 But sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes  
 Or Cytherea's breath ; pale primroses,  
 That die unmarried, ere they can behold  
 Bright Phoebus in his strength, a malady  
 Most incident to maids ; bold oxlips and  
 The crown imperial ; lilies of all kinds,  
 The flower-de-luce being one.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Winter's Tale*, Act IV, Sc. iii).

## 845. WHEN DAFFODILS BEGIN TO PEER

WHEN daffodils begin to peer,  
 With heigh ! the doxy, over the dale,  
 Why, then comes in the sweet o' the year ;  
 For the red blood reigns in the winter's pale.  
 The white sheet bleaching on the hedge,  
 With heigh ! the sweet birds, O, how they sing !  
 Doth set my pugging tooth on edge ;  
 For a quart of ale is a dish for a king.  
 The lark, that tirra-lirra chants,  
 With, heigh ! with, heigh ! the thrush and the jay,  
 Are summer songs for me and my aunts,  
 While we lie tumbling in the hay.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*The Winter's Tale*, Act IV, Sc. ii).

## 846. IF ENGLAND TO ITSELF DO REST BUT TRUE

THIS England never did, nor never shall,  
 Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror,  
 But when it first did help to wound itself.  
 Now these her princes are come home again,  
 Come the three corners of the world in arms,  
 And we shall shock them. Naught shall make us rue,  
 If England to itself do rest but true.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King John*, Act v, Sc. vii).

## 847. TO GILD REFINÈD GOLD

To gild refinèd gold, to paint the lily,  
 To throw a perfume on the violet,  
 To smooth the ice, or add another hue  
 Unto the rainbow, or with taper-light  
 To seek the beauteous eye of heaven to garnish,  
 Is wasteful and ridiculous excess.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King John*, Act IV, Sc. ii).

## 848. CHRIST'S SOLDIER

MANY a time hath banished Norfolk fought  
 For Jesu Christ in glorious Christian field,  
 Streaming the ensign of the Christian cross  
 Against black pagans, Turks, and Saracens ;  
 And toiled with works of war, retired himself  
 To Italy ; and there at Venice gave  
 His body to that pleasant country's earth,  
 And his pure soul unto his captain Christ,  
 Under whose colours he had fought so long.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard II*, Act IV, Sc. i).

## 849. O ! WHO CAN HOLD A FIRE IN HIS HAND

O ! WHO can hold a fire in his hand  
 By thinking on the frosty Caucasus ?  
 Or cloy the hungry edge of appetite  
 By bare imagination of a feast ?  
 Or wallow naked in December snow  
 By thinking on fantastic summer's heat ?  
 O, no ! the apprehension of the good  
 Gives but the greater feeling to the worse :  
 Fell sorrow's tooth doth never rankle more  
 Than when it bites, but lanceth not the sore.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard II*, Act I, Sc. iii).

## 850. SAD STORIES OF THE DEATH OF KINGS

OF comfort no man speak :  
 Let 's talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs ;  
 Make dust our paper, and with rainy eyes  
 Write sorrow on the bosom of the earth ;  
 Let 's choose executors and talk of wills :  
 And yet not so—for what can we bequeath  
 Save our deposèd bodies to the ground ?  
 Our lands, our lives, and all are Bolingbroke's,  
 And nothing can we call our own but death,  
 And that small model of the barren earth  
 Which serves as paste and cover to our bones.  
 For God's sake, let us sit upon the ground  
 And tell sad stories of the death of kings :  
 How some have been deposèd, some slain in war,  
 Some haunted by the ghosts they have deposèd,  
 Some poisoned by their wives, some sleeping killed ;  
 All murdered : for within the hollow crown  
 That rounds the mortal temples of a king  
 Keeps Death his court, and there the antic sits,  
 Scoffing his state and grinning at his pomp ;  
 Allowing him a breath, a little scene,  
 To monarchize, be feared, and kill with looks,  
 Infusing him with self and vain conceit  
 As if this flesh which walls about our life  
 Were brass impregnable ; and humoured thus  
 Comes at the last, and with a little pin  
 Bores through his castle wall, and farewell king !

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard II*, Act III, Sc. ii).

## 851. THIS THRONE OF KINGS, THIS SCEPTERED ISLE

THIS royal throne of kings, this sceptered isle,  
 This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,  
 This other Eden, demi-paradise,  
 This fortress built by Nature for herself  
 Against infection and the hand of war,  
 This happy breed of men, this little world,  
 This precious stone set in the silver sea,  
 Which serves it in the office of a wall,  
 Or as a moat defensive to a house,  
 Against the envy of less happier lands,  
 This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard II*, Act II, Sc. i).

## 852. SLEEP

How many thousand of my poorest subjects  
 Are at this hour asleep ! O sleep ! O gentle sleep !  
 Nature's soft nurse, how have I frighted thee,  
 That thou no more wilt weigh my eyelids down  
 And steep my senses in forgetfulness ?  
 Why rather, sleep, liest thou in smoky cribs,  
 Upon uneasy pallets stretching thee,  
 And hushed with buzzing night-flies to thy slumber,  
 Than in the perfumed chambers of the great,  
 Under the canopies of costly state,  
 And lulled with sound of sweetest melody ?  
 O thou dull god ! why liest thou with the vile  
 In loathsome beds, and leav'st the kingly couch  
 A watch-case or a common 'larum bell ?  
 Wilt thou upon the high and giddy mast  
 Seal up the ship-boy's eyes, and rock his brains  
 In cradle of the rude imperious surge,  
 And in the visitation of the winds,  
 Who take the ruffian billows by the top,  
 Curling their monstrous heads, and hanging them  
 With deafening clamour in the slippery clouds,  
 That with the hurly death itself awakes ?  
 Canst thou, O partial sleep ! give thy repose  
 To the wet sea-boy in an hour so rude,  
 And in the calmest and most stillest night,  
 With all appliances and means to boot,  
 Deny it to a king ? Then, happy low, lie down !  
 Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Henry IV*, Pt. II, Act III, Sc. i).

## 853. FROM HENRY'S ADDRESS TO HIS ARMY

I AM not covetous for gold,  
 Nor care I who doth feed upon my cost ;  
 It yearns me not if men my garments wear ;  
 Such outward things dwell not in my desires :  
 But if it be a sin to covet honour,  
 I am the most offending soul alive.

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers ;  
 For he to-day that sheds his blood with me  
 Shall be my brother ; be he ne'er so vile  
 This day shall gentle his condition :  
 And gentlemen in England, now a-bed  
 Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
 And hold their manhoods cheap whiles any speaks  
 That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Henry V*, Act IV, Sc. iii).

## 854. SO WORK THE HONEY-BEES

So work the honey-bees,  
 Creatures that by a rule in nature teach  
 The act of order to a peopled kingdom.  
 They have a king and officers of sorts ;  
 Where some, like magistrates, correct at home,  
 Others, like merchants, venture trade abroad,  
 Others, like soldiers, armèd in their stings,  
 Make boot upon the summer's velvet buds ;  
 Which pillage they with merry march bring home  
 To the tent-royal of their emperor :  
 Who, busied in his majesty, surveys  
 The singing masons building roofs of gold,  
 The civil citizens kneading up the honey,  
 The poor mechanic porters crowding in  
 Their heavy burdens at his narrow gate,  
 The sad-eyed justice, with his surly hum,  
 Delivering o'er to executors pale  
 The lazy yawning drone.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Henry V*, Act I, Sc. ii).

## 855. METHOUGHT WHAT PAIN IT WAS TO DROWN

METHOUGHT what pain it was to drown :  
 What dreadful noise of water in mine ears !  
 What sights of ugly death within mine eyes !  
 Methought I saw a thousand fearful wracks ;  
 A thousand men that fishes gnawed upon ;  
 Wedges of gold, great anchors, heaps of pearl,  
 Inestimable stones, unvalued jewels,  
 All scattered in the bottom of the sea.  
 Some lay in dead men's skulls ; and in those holes  
 Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,  
 As 'twere in scorn of eyes, reflecting gems,  
 That wooed the slimy bottom of the deep,  
 And mocked the dead bones that lay scattered by.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard III*, Act I, Sc. iv).

## 856. NOW IS THE WINTER OF OUR DISCONTENT

Now is the winter of our discontent  
 Made glorious summer by this sun of York ;  
 And all the clouds that loured upon our house  
 In the deep bosom of the ocean buried.  
 Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths ;  
 Our bruised arms hung up for monuments ;  
 Our stern alarums changed to merry meetings ;  
 Our dreadful marches to delightful measures.

Grim-visaged war hath smoothed his wrinkled front ;  
 And now,—instead of mounting barbèd steeds,  
 To fright the souls of fearful adversaries,—  
 He capers nimbly in a lady's chamber  
 To the lascivious pleasing of a lute.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Richard III*, Act I, Sc. i).

### 857. FAREWELL TO ALL MY GREATNESS

FAREWELL ! a long farewell, to all my greatness !  
 This is the state of man : to-day he puts forth  
 The tender leaves of hopes ; to-morrow blossoms,  
 And bears his blushing honours thiek upon him ;  
 The third day comes a frost, a killing frost ;  
 And, when he thinks, good easy man, full surely  
 His greatness is a-ripening, nips his root,  
 And then he falls, as I do. I have ventured,  
 Like little wanton boys that swim on bladders,  
 This many summers in a sea of glory,  
 But far beyond my depth : my high-blown pride  
 At length broke under me, and now has left me,  
 Weary and old with service, to the mercy  
 Of a rude stream, that must for ever hide me.  
 Vain pomp and glory of this world, I hate ye :  
 I feel my heart new opened. O ! how wretched  
 Is that poor man that hangs on princes' favours.  
 There is, betwixt that smile we would aspire to,  
 That sweet aspect of princes, and their ruin, .  
 More pangs and fears than wars or women have ;  
 And when he falls, he falls like Lucifer,  
 Never to hope again.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Henry VIII*, Act III, Sc. ii).

### 858. ORPHEUS WITH HIS LUTE

ORPHEUS with his lute made trees,  
 And the mountain tops that freeze,  
 Bow themselves, when he did sing :  
 To his music plants and flowers  
 Ever sprung ; as sun and showers  
 There had made a lasting spring.

Everything that heard him play,  
 Even the billows of the sea,  
 Hung their heads, and then lay by.  
 In sweet music is such art,  
 Killing care and grief of heart  
 Fall asleep, or hearing, die.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Henry VIII*, Act III, Sc. i).

## 859. HE JESTS AT SCARS, THAT NEVER FELT A WOUND

HE jests at scars, that never felt a wound.  
 But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks?  
 It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!  
 Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,  
 Who is already sick and pale with grief,  
 That thou her maid art far more fair than she;  
 Be not her maid, since she is envious;  
 Her vestal livery is but sick and green,  
 And none but fools do wear it; cast it off.  
 It is my lady; O! it is my love:  
 O! that she knew she were.  
 She speaks, yet she says nothing: what of that?  
 Her eye discourses; I will answer it.  
 I am too bold, 'tis not to me she speaks:  
 Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,  
 Having some business, do entreat her eyes  
 To twinkle in their spheres till they return.  
 What if her eyes were there, they in her head?  
 The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars  
 As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven  
 Would through the airy region stream so bright  
 That birds would sing and think it were not night.  
 See! how she leans her cheek upon her hand:  
 O! that I were a glove upon that hand,  
 That I might touch that cheek.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Romeo and Juliet*, Act II, Sc. ii).

## 860. QUEEN MAB

SHE is the fairies' midwife, and she comes  
 In shape no bigger than an agate-stone  
 On the fore-finger of an alderman,  
 Drawn with a team of little atomies  
 Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep:  
 Her wagon-spokes made of long spinners' legs;  
 The cover, of the wings of grasshoppers;  
 The traces, of the smallest spider's web;  
 The collars, of the moonshine's watery beams;  
 Her whip, of cricket's bone; the lash, of film;  
 Her waggoner, a small grey-coated gnat  
 Not half so big as a round little worm  
 Pricked from the lazy finger of a maid;  
 Her chariot is an empty hazel-nut,  
 Made by the joiner squirrel or old grub,  
 Time out o' mind the fairies' coach-makers.

And in this state she gallops night by night  
 Through lovers' brains, and then they dream of love ;  
 O'er courtiers' knees, that dream on curtsies straight ;  
 O'er lawyers' fingers, who straight dream on fees ;  
 O'er ladies' lips, who straight on kisses dream ;  
 Which oft the angry Mab with blisters plagues,  
 Because their breaths with sweetmeats tainted are.  
 Sometimes she gallops o'er a courtier's nose,  
 And then dreams he of smelling out a suit ;  
 And sometimes comes she with a tithe-pig's tail,  
 Tickling a parson's nose as a' lies asleep,  
 Then dreams he of another benefice ;  
 Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck,  
 And then dreams he of cutting foreign throats,  
 Of breaches, ambuscadoes, Spanish blades,  
 Of healths five fathom deep ; and then anon  
 Drums in his ear, at which he starts and wakes ;  
 And, being thus frightened, swears a prayer or two,  
 And sleeps again.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Romeo and Juliet*, Act I, Sc. iv).

#### 861. MARK ANTONY'S ORATION

FRIENDS, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears ;  
 I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.  
 The evil that men do lives after them,  
 The good is oft interrèd with their bones ;  
 So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus  
 Hath told you Caesar was ambitious ;  
 If it were so, it was a grievous fault,  
 And grievously hath Caesar answered it.  
 Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest,—  
 For Brutus is an honourable man ;  
 So are they all, all honourable men,—  
 Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.  
 He was my friend, faithful and just to me :  
 But Brutus says he was ambitious ;  
 And Brutus is an honourable man.  
 He hath brought many captives home to Rome,  
 Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill :  
 Did this in Caesar seem ambitious ?  
 When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept ;  
 Ambition should be made of sterner stuff :  
 Yet Brutus says he was ambitious ;  
 And Brutus is an honourable man.  
 You all did see that on the Lupercal  
 I thrice presented him a kingly crown,  
 Which he did thrice refuse : was this ambition ?



Yet Brutus says he was ambitious ;  
 And, sure, he is an honourable man.  
 I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,  
 But here I am to speak what I do know.  
 You all did love him once, not without cause :  
 What cause withholds you then to mourn for him ?  
 O judgement ! thou art fled to brutish beasts,  
 And men have lost their reason. Bear with me ;  
 My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,  
 And I must pause till it come back to me.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Julius Caesar*, Act III, Sc. ii).

## 862. THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN

THERE is a tide in the affairs of men,  
 Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune ;  
 Omitted, all the voyage of their life  
 Is bound in shallows and in miseries.  
 On such a full sea are we now afloat ;  
 And we must take the current when it serves,  
 Or lose our ventures.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Julius Caesar*, Act IV, Sc. iii).

## 863. BRUTUS

THIS was the noblest Roman of them all ;  
 All the conspirators save only he  
 Did that they did in envy of great Caesar ;  
 He only, in a general honest thought  
 And common good to all, made one of them.  
 His life was gentle, and the elements  
 So mixed in him that Nature might stand up  
 And say to all the world, ' This was a man ! '

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Julius Caesar*, Act v, Sc. v).

## 864. A MIND DISEASED

CANST thou not minister to a mind diseased,  
 Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow,  
 Raze out the written troubles of the brain,  
 And with some sweet oblivious antidote  
 Cleanse the stuffed bosom of that perilous stuff  
 Which weighs upon the heart ?

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Macbeth*, Act v, Sc. iii).

## 865. IF IT WERE DONE WHEN 'TIS DONE

If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well  
 It were done quickly ; if the assassination  
 Could trammel up the consequence, and catch  
 With his surcease success ; that but this blow  
 Might be the be-all and the end-all here,  
 But here, upon this bank and shoal of time,  
 We'd jump the life to come. But in these cases  
 We still have judgement here ; that we but teach  
 Bloody instructions, which, being taught, return  
 To plague the inventor ; this even-handed justice  
 Commends the ingredients of our poisoned chalice  
 To our own lips. He's here in double trust :  
 First, as I am his kinsman and his subject,  
 Strong both against the deed ; then, as his host,  
 Who should against his murderer shut the door,  
 Not bear the knife myself. Besides, this Duncan  
 Hath borne his faculties so meek, hath been  
 So clear in his great office, that his virtues  
 Will plead like angels trumpet-tongued against  
 The deep damnation of his taking-off ;  
 And pity, like a naked new-born babe,  
 Striding the blast, or heaven's cherubin, horsed  
 Upon the sightless couriers of the air,  
 Shall blow the horrid deed in every eye,  
 That tears shall drown the wind. I have no spur  
 To prick the sides of my intent, but only  
 Vaulting ambition, which o'er-leaps itself  
 And falls on the other.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Macbeth*, Act I, Sc. vii).

## 866. IS THIS A DAGGER WHICH I SEE BEFORE ME

Is this a dagger which I see before me,  
 The handle toward my hand ? Come, let me clutch thee :  
 I have thee not, and yet I see thee still.  
 Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible  
 To feeling as to sight ? or art thou but  
 A dagger of the mind, a false creation,  
 Proceeding from the heat-oppressed brain ?  
 I see thee yet, in form as palpable  
 As this which now I draw.  
 Thou marshall'st me the way that I was going ;  
 And such an instrument I was to use.  
 Mine eyes are made the fools o' the other senses,  
 Or else worth all the rest : I see thee still ;  
 And on thy blade and dudgeon gouts of blood,  
 Which was not so before. There's no such thing :

It is the bloody business which informs  
 Thus to mine eyes. Now o'er the one half-world  
 Nature seems dead, and wicked dreams abuse  
 The curtained sleep; witchcraft celebrates  
 Pale Hecate's offerings; and withered murder,  
 Alarumed by his sentinel, the wolf,  
 Whose howl's his watch, thus with his stealthy pace,  
 With Tarquin's ravishing strides, toward his design  
 Moves like a ghost. Thou sure and firm-set earth,  
 Hear not my steps, which way they walk, for fear  
 Thy very stones prate of my whereabouts,  
 And take the present horror from the time,  
 Which now suits with it. Whiles I threat he lives:  
 Words to the heat of deeds too cold breath gives.  
 I go, and it is done; the bell invites me.  
 Hear it not, Duncan; for it is a knell  
 That summons thee to heaven or to hell.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Macbeth*, Act II, Sc. i).

#### 867. TO-MORROW

TO-MORROW, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,  
 Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,  
 To the last syllable of recorded time;  
 And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
 The way to dusty death. Out, out, brief candle!  
 Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player  
 That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,  
 And then is heard no more; it is a tale  
 Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,  
 Signifying nothing.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Macbeth*, Act V, Sc. v).

#### 868. O! THAT THIS TOO TOO SOLID FLESH WOULD MELT

O! THAT this too too solid flesh would melt,  
 Thaw and resolve itself into a dew;  
 Or that the Everlasting had not fixed  
 His canon 'gainst self-slaughter! O God! O God!  
 How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable  
 Seem to me all the uses of this world.

Frailty, thy name is woman!

A little month; or ere those shoes were old  
 With which she followed my poor father's body,  
 Like Niobe, all tears.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Hamlet*, Act I, Sc. ii).

## 869. THE CHARIEST MAID IS PRODIGAL ENOUGH

*Laertes.* The chariest maid is prodigal enough  
 If she unmask her beauty to the moon ;  
 Virtue herself 'scapes not calumnious strokes ;  
 The canker galls the infants of the spring  
 Too oft before their buttons be disclosed,  
 And in the morn and liquid dew of youth  
 Contagious blastments are most imminent.  
 Be wary then ; best safety lies in fear :  
 Youth to itself rebels, though none else near.

*Ophelia.* I shall the effect of this good lesson keep,  
 As watchman to my heart. But, good my brother,  
 Do not, as some ungracious pastors do,  
 Show me the steep and thorny way to heaven,  
 Whiles, like a puffed and reckless libertine,  
 Himself the primrose path of dalliance treads,  
 And recks not his own rede.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Hamlet*, Act I, Sc. iii).

## 870. TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE

THERE, my blessing with thee !  
 And these few precepts in thy memory  
 Look thou character. Give thy thoughts no tongue,  
 Nor any unproportioned thought his act.  
 Be thou familiar, but by no means vulgar ;  
 The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,  
 Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel ;  
 But do not dull thy palm with entertainment  
 Of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade. Beware  
 Of entrance to a quarrel, but, being in,  
 Bear 't that the opposèd may beware of thee.  
 Give every man thine ear, but few thy voice ;  
 Take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgement.  
 Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,  
 But not expressed in fancy ; rich, not gaudy ;  
 For the apparel oft proclaims the man,  
 And they in France of the best rank and station  
 Are most select and generous, chief in that.  
 Neither a borrower, nor a lender be ;  
 For loan oft loses both itself and friend,  
 And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.  
 This above all : to thine own self be true,  
 And it must follow, as the night the day,  
 Thou canst not then be false to any man.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Hamlet*, Act I, Sc. iii).

## 871. TO BE, OR NOT TO BE

To be, or not to be: that is the question:  
 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer  
 The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,  
 Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,  
 And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep;  
 No more; and, by a sleep to say we end  
 The heart-ache and the thousand natural shocks  
 That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation  
 Devoutly to be wished. To die, to sleep;  
 To sleep: perchance to dream: aye, there's the rub;  
 For in that sleep of death what dreams may come  
 When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,  
 Must give us pause. There's the respect  
 That makes calamity of so long life;  
 For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,  
 The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,  
 The pangs of disprized love, the law's delay,  
 The insolence of office, and the spurns  
 That patient merit of the unworthy takes,  
 When he himself might his quietus make  
 With a bare bodkin? who would fardels bear,  
 To grunt and sweat under a weary life,  
 But that the dread of something after death,  
 The undiscovered country from whose bourn  
 No traveller returns, puzzles the will,  
 And makes us rather bear those ills we have  
 Than fly to others that we know not of?  
 Thus conscience does make cowards of us all;  
 And thus the native hue of resolution  
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,  
 And enterprises of great pith and moment  
 With this regard their currents turn awry,  
 And lose the name of action.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Hamlet*, Act III, Sc. i).

## 872. ON DOVER CLIFF

How fearful  
 And dizzy 'tis to cast one's eyes so low!  
 The crows and choughs that wing the midway air  
 Show scarce so gross as beetles; half way down  
 Hangs one that gathers samphire, dreadful trade!  
 Methinks he seems no bigger than his head.  
 The fishermen that walk upon the beach  
 Appear like mice, and yond tall anchoring bark  
 Diminished to her cock, her cock a buoy  
 Almost too small for sight. The murmuring surge,

That on the unnumbered idle pebbles chafes,  
 Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,  
 Lest my brain turn, and the deficient sight  
 Topple down headlong.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*King Lear*, Act IV, Sc. vi).

### 873. FAREWELL THE TRANQUIL MIND

FAREWELL the tranquil mind ; farewell content !  
 Farewell the plumèd troop and the big wars  
 That make ambition virtue ! O, farewell !  
 Farewell the neighing steed, and the shrill trump,  
 The spirit-stirring drum, the ear-piercing fife,  
 The royal banner, and all quality,  
 Pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war !  
 And, O you mortal engines, whose rude throats  
 The immortal Jove's dread clamours counterfeit,  
 Farewell ! Othello's occupation's gone !

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Othello*, Act III, Sc. iii).

### 874. GOOD NAME

GOOD name in man and woman, dear my lord,  
 Is the immediate jewel of their souls :  
 Who steals my purse steals trash ; 'tis something, nothing ;  
 'Twas mine, 'tis his, and has been slave to thousands ;  
 But he that filches from me my good name  
 Robs me of that which not enriches him,  
 And makes me poor indeed.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Othello*, Act III, Sc. iii).

### 875. I HAVE DONE THE STATE SOME SERVICE

I HAVE done the state some service, and they know 't ;  
 No more of that. I pray you, in your letters,  
 When you shall these unlucky deeds relate,  
 Speak of me as I am ; nothing extenuate,  
 Nor set down aught in malice ; then, must you speak  
 Of one that loved not wisely but too well ;  
 Of one not easily jealous, but, being wrought,  
 Perplexed in the extreme ; of one whose hand,  
 Like the base Indian, threw a pearl away  
 Richer than all his tribe ; of one whose subdued eyes  
 Albeit unused to the melting mood,  
 Drop tears as fast as the Arabian trees  
 Their medicinable gum.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Othello*, Act v, Sc. ii).

## 876. OTHELLO'S WOOING

I WILL a round unvarnished tale deliver  
 Of my whole course of love. . . .  
 Her father loved me ; oft invited me ;  
 Still questioned me the story of my life  
 From year to year, the battles, sieges, fortunes  
 That I have passed.  
 I ran it through, even from my boyish days,  
 To the very moment that he bade me tell it ;  
 Wherein I spake of most disastrous chances,  
 Of moving accidents by flood and field,  
 Of hair-breadth 'scapes i' the imminent deadly breach,  
 Of being taken by the insolent foe,  
 And sold to slavery, of my redemption thence  
 And portance in my travel's history :  
 Wherein of antres vast, and deserts idle,  
 Rough quarries, rocks and hills whose heads touch heaven,  
 It was my hint to speak, such was the process ;  
 And of the Cannibals that each other eat,  
 The Anthropophagi, and men whose heads  
 Do grow beneath their shoulders. This to hear  
 Would Desdemona seriously incline : . . . .  
 . . . . My story being done,  
 She gave me for my pains a world of sighs :  
 She swore, in faith, 'twas strange, 'twas passing strange ;  
 'Twas pitiful, 'twas wondrous pitiful :  
 She wished she had not heard it, yet she wished  
 That heaven had made her such a man : she thanked me ;  
 And bade me, if I had a friend that loved her,  
 I should but teach him how to tell my story,  
 And that would woo her. Upon this hint, I spake :  
 She loved me for the dangers I had passed ;  
 And I loved her, that she did pity them.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Othello*, Act I, Sc. iii).

## 877. SHE THAT WAS EVER FAIR

SHE that was ever fair and never proud,  
 Had tongue at will and yet was never loud,  
 Never lacked gold and yet went never gay,  
 Fled from her wish and yet said ' Now I may ',  
 She that being angered, her revenge being nigh,  
 Bade her wrong stay and her displeasure fly,  
 She that in wisdom never was so frail  
 To change the cod's head for the salmon's tail,  
 She that could think and ne'er disclose her mind,  
 See suitors following and not look behind,  
 She was a wight, if ever such wight were,—  
 To suckle fools and chronicle small beer.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Othello*, Act II, Sc. i).

## 878. A DIRGE

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 c' 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 finished joy and moan :  
 All lovers young, all lovers must  
 Consign to thee, and come to dust.

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Cymbeline*, Act IV, Sc. ii).

## 879. HARK ! HARK ! THE LARK

HARK ! hark ! the lark at heaven's gate sings,  
 And Phoebus 'gins arise,  
 His steeds to water at those springs  
 On chaliced flowers that lies ;  
 And winking Mary-buds begin  
 To ope their golden eyes :  
 With everything that pretty is,  
 My lady sweet, arise :

Arise, arise !

W. SHAKESPEARE (*Cymbeline*, Act II, Sc. iii).

## 880. CRABBÈD AGE AND YOUTH

CRABBÈD Age and Youth cannot live together :  
 Youth is full of pleasure, 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 (*The Passionate Pilgrim*).



## 881. FAREWELL! THOU ART TOO DEAR FOR MY POSSESSING

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 (Sonnet LXXXVII).

## 882. FULL MANY A GLORIOUS MORNING HAVE I SEEN

FULL many a glorious morning have I seen  
 Flatter the mountain-tops with sovereign eye,  
 Kissing with golden face the meadows green,  
 Gilding pale streams with heavenly alchemy;  
 Anon permit the basest clouds to ride  
 With ugly rack on his celestial face,  
 And from the forlorn world his visage hide,  
 Stealing unseen to west with this disgrace:  
 Even so my sun one early morn did shine,  
 With all-triumphant splendour on my brow;  
 But, out! alack! he was but one hour mine,  
 The region cloud hath masked him from me now.

Yet him for this my love no whit disdaineth;  
 Suns of the world may stain when heaven's sun staineth.

W. SHAKESPEARE (Sonnet XXXIII).

## 883. LET ME NOT TO THE MARRIAGE OF TRUE MINDS

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-fixed 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 even to the edge of doom.

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

W. SHAKESPEARE (Sonnet CXVI).

## 884. SHALL I COMPARE THEE TO A SUMMER'S DAY

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 dimmed :  
 And every fair from fair sometime declines,  
 By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimmed.  
 But thy eternal summer shall not fade,  
 Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st,  
 Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,  
 When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st ;  
     So long as men can breathe, or eyes can see,  
     So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.

W. SHAKESPEARE (Sonnet xviii).

## 885. TO ME, FAIR FRIEND, YOU NEVER CAN BE OLD

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 turned  
 In process of the seasons have I seen,  
 Three April perfumes in three hot Junes burned,  
 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 (Sonnet civ).

## 886. WHEN IN THE CHRONICLE OF WASTED TIME

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 expressed  
 Even such a beauty as you master now.  
 So all their praises are but prophecies  
 Of this our time, all you prefiguring ;  
 And, for they looked 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 (Sonnet cvi).

## 887. WHEN TO THE SESSIONS OF SWEET SILENT THOUGHT

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 times' 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 cancelled woe,  
 And moan the expense of many a vanished sight :  
 Then can I grieve at grievances foregone,  
 And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er  
 The sad account of fore-bemoanèd 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 (Sonnet xxx).

## 888. GOOD-NIGHT

GOOD-night ? ah ! no ; the hour is ill  
 Which severs those it should unite ;  
 Let us remain together still,  
 Then it will be *good* night.

How can I call the lone night good,  
 Though thy sweet wishes wing its flight ?  
 Be it not said, thought, understood,  
 Then it will be—*good* night.

To hearts which near each other move  
 From evening close to morning light,  
 The night *is* good ; because, my love,  
 They never *say* good-night. P. B. SHELLEY.

## 889. 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 overflowed.

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 un beholden  
 Its aerial hue  
 Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the view !

Like a rose embowered  
 In its own green leaves,  
 By warm winds deflowered,  
 Till the scent it gives  
 Makes faint with too much sweet those heavy-winged thieves:

Sound of vernal showers  
 On the twinkling grass,  
 Rain-awakened 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 chant,  
 Matched 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.

## 890. HE HAS OUTSOARED THE SHADOW OF OUR NIGHT

HE has outsoared the shadow of our night;  
 Envy and calumny and hate and pain,  
 And that unrest which men miscall delight,  
 Can touch him not and torture not again;  
 From the contagion of the world's slow stain  
 He is secure, and now can never mourn  
 A heart grown cold, a head grown grey in vain.  
 P. B. SHELLEY (*Adonais*).

## 891. ON KEATS

WHO DESIRED THAT ON HIS TOMB SHOULD BE INSCRIBED ———  
 'HERE lieth One whose name was writ on water.'  
 But, ere the breath that could erase it blew,  
 Death, in remorse for that fell slaughter,  
 Death, the immortalizing winter, flew  
 Athwart the stream,—and time's printless torrent grew  
 A scroll of crystal, blazoning the name  
 Of *Adonais*!  
 P. B. SHELLEY.

## 892. HOW WONDERFUL IS DEATH

How wonderful is Death,  
 Death and his brother Sleep!  
 One, pale as yonder waning moon,  
 With lips of lurid blue;  
 The other, rosy as the morn  
 When throned on ocean's wave  
 It blushes o'er the world:  
 Yet both so passing wonderful!  
 Hath then the gloomy Power  
 Whose reign is in the tainted sepulchres  
 Seized on her sinless soul?  
 Must then that peerless form  
 Which love and admiration cannot view  
 Without a beating heart, those azure veins  
 Which steal like streams along a field of snow,  
 That lovely outline, which is fair  
 As breathing marble, perish?

Must putrefaction's breath  
 Leave nothing of this heavenly sight  
 But loathsomeness and ruin ?  
 Spare nothing but a gloomy theme,  
 On which the lightest heart might moralize ?  
 Or is it only a sweet slumber  
 Stealing o'er sensation,  
 Which the breath of roseate morning  
 Chaseth into darkness ?  
 Will Ianthe wake again,  
 And give that faithful bosom joy  
 Whose sleepless spirit waits to catch  
 Light, life and rapture from her smile ?

P. B. SHELLEY (*Queen Mab*).

### 893. LINES TO AN INDIAN AIR

<p>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 !</p>	<p>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 on thine,          Oh, belovèd as thou art !</p>
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Oh 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 ;—  
 Oh ! press it to thine own again,  
 Where it will break at last. P. B. SHELLEY.

### 894. FROM 'THE CLOUD'

I BRING fresh showers for the thirsting flowers,  
 From the seas and the streams ;  
 I bear light shade for the leaves when laid  
 In their noonday dreams.  
 From my wings are shaken the dews that waken  
 The sweet buds every one,  
 When rocked to rest on their mother's breast,  
 As she dances about the sun.  
 I wield the flail of the lashing hail,  
 And whiten the green plains under ;  
 And then again I dissolve it in rain,  
 And laugh as I pass in thunder.

I sift the snow on the mountains below,  
 And their great pines groan aghast ;  
 And all the night 'tis my pillow white,  
 While I sleep in the arms of the blast.  
 Sublime on the towers of my skiey bowers,  
 Lightning my pilot sits ;  
 In a cavern under is fettered the thunder,  
 It struggles and howls at fits. P. B. SHELLEY.

## 895. TO —

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.

## 896. TO —

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 heaped for the belovèd's bed ;  
 And so thy thoughts, when thou art gone,  
 Love itself shall slumber on. P. B. SHELLEY.

## 897. ODE TO THE WEST WIND

## I

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 wingèd 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 !



## II

Thou on whose stream, 'mid the steep sky's commotion,  
 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 aery surge,  
 Like the bright hair uplifted from the head  
 Of some fierce Maenad, even 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!

## III

Thou who didst waken from his summer dreams,  
 The blue Mediterranean, where he lay,  
 Lulled 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!

## IV

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 thy skiey speed  
 Scarce seemed 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 chained and bowed  
 One too like thee: tameless, and swift, and proud.

## V

Make me thy lyre, even 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 withered leaves to quicken a new birth !  
 And, by the incantation of this verse,  
 Scatter, as from an unextinguished hearth  
 Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind !  
 Be through my lips to unawakened earth  
 The trumpet of a prophecy ! O Wind,  
 If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind ? P. B. SHELLEY.

## 898. 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.

## 899. ON A POET'S LIPS I SLEPT

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 !  
 One of these awakened me,  
 And I sped to succour thee.  
 P. B. SHELLEY (*Prometheus Unbound*).

## 900. ONE WORD IS TOO OFTEN PROFANED

ONE word is too often profaned  
 For me to profane it,  
 One feeling too falsely disdained  
 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.

## 901. TO THE NIGHT

SWIFTLY walk o'er 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 sighed for thee ;  
 When light rode high, and the dew was gone,  
 And noon lay heavy on flower and tree,  
 And the weary Day turned to his rest  
 Lingering like an unloved guest,  
 I sighed for thee.

Thy brother Death came, and cried  
 Wouldst thou me ?

Thy sweet child Sleep, the filmy-eyed,  
 Murmured 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, belovèd Night—  
 Swift be thine approaching flight,  
 Come soon, soon !

P. B. SHELLEY.

## 902. 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 spirit meet and 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 disdained its brother ;  
 And the sunlight clasps the earth,  
 And the moonbeams kiss the sea :  
 What is all this sweet work worth,  
 If thou kiss not me ? P. B. SHELLEY.

## 903. OCEAN'S NURSING

UNDERNEATH Day's azure eyes  
 Ocean's nursing, 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.

P. B. SHELLEY (*Lines written among the Euganean Hills*).

## 904. TIME

UNFATHOMABLE Sea ! whose waves are years,  
 Ocean of Time, whose waters of deep woe  
 Are brackish with the salt of human tears !  
 Thou shoreless flood, which in thy ebb and flow  
 Claspest the limits of mortality,  
 And sick of prey, yet howling on for more,  
 Vomitest thy wrecks on its inhospitable shore ;  
 Treacherous in calm, and terrible in storm,  
 Who shall put forth on thee,  
 Unfathomable Sea ? P. B. SHELLEY.

## 905. WHEN THE LAMP IS SHATTERED

WHEN the lamp is shattered  
The light in the dust lies dead—

When the cloud is scattered,  
The rainbow's glory is shed.

When the lute is broken,  
Sweet tones are remembered  
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 ruined  
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 possessed.

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.

## 906. WRITTEN AT AN INN AT HENLEY

To thee, fair freedom ! I retire  
From flattery, cards, and dice, and din ;  
Nor art thou found in mansions higher  
Than the low cot, or humble inn.

'Tis here with boundless power I reign ;  
And every health which I begin,  
Converts dull port to bright champagne ;  
Such freedom crowns it, at an inn.

I fly from pomp, I fly from plate !  
I fly from falsehood's specious grin ;  
Freedom I love, and form I hate,  
And choose my lodgings at an inn.

Here, waiter ! take my sordid ore,  
Which lackeys else might hope to win ;  
It buys, what courts have not in store ;  
It buys me freedom at an inn.

Who'er has travelled life's dull round,  
Where'er his stages may have been,  
May sigh to think he still has found  
The warmest welcome at an inn. W. SHENSTONE.

## 907. HAD I A HEART FOR FALSEHOOD FRAMED

HAD I a heart for falsehood framed,  
 I ne'er could injure you ;  
 For though your tongue no promise claimed,  
 Your charms would make me true.  
 To you no soul shall bear deceit,  
 No stranger offer wrong ;  
 But friends in all the aged you'll meet,  
 And lovers in the young.

But when they learn that you have blest  
 Another with your heart,  
 They'll bid aspiring passion rest,  
 And act a brother's part :  
 Then, lady, dread not here deceit  
 Nor fear to suffer wrong ;  
 For friends in all the aged you'll meet,  
 And brothers in the young.

R. B. SHERIDAN (*The Duenna*).

## 908. I NE'ER COULD ANY LUSTRE SEE

<p>I NE'ER could any lustre see          In eyes that would not look on me ;          I ne'er saw nectar on a lip,          But where my own did hope to sip.          Has the maid who seeks my heart          Cheeks of rose, untouched by art ?          I will own the colour true          When yielding blushesaidtheirhue.</p>	<p>Is her hand so soft and pure ?          I must press it, to be sure ;          Nor can I be certain then,          Till it, grateful, press again.          Must I, with attentive eye,          Watch her heaving bosom sigh ?          I will do so, when I see          That heaving bosom sigh for me.</p>
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R. B. SHERIDAN (*The Duenna*).

## 909. THE SUN OF OUR TABLE

THIS bottle's the sun of our table,  
 His beams are rosy wine ;  
 We, planets, that are not able  
 Without his help to shine.  
 Let mirth and glee abound !  
 You'll soon grow bright  
 With borrowed light,  
 And shine as he goes round !

R. B. SHERIDAN (*The Duenna*).

## 910. THE GLORIES OF OUR BLOOD AND STATE

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 crookèd 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.

## 911. VICTORIOUS MEN OF EARTH

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.

## 912. PIPING PEACE

YOU virgins that did late despair  
 To keep your wealth from cruel  
 men,  
 Tie up in silk your careless hair :  
 Soft peace is come again.  
 Now lovers' eyes may gently  
 shoot  
 A flame that would not kill ;  
 The drum was angry, but the  
 lute  
 Shall whisper what you will.

Sing 'Io, Io!' for his sake  
 Who hath restored your droop-  
 ing heads ;  
 With choice of sweetest flowers  
 make  
 A garden where he treads ;  
 Whilst we whole groves of laurel  
 bring,  
 A petty triumph to his brow,  
 Who is the master of our spring  
 And all the bloom we owe.  
 J. SHIRLEY.

## 913. SLEEP

COME, Sleep ! O Sleep, the certain knot of peace,  
 The baiting-place of wit, the balm of woe,  
 The poor man's wealth, the prisoner's release,  
 The indifferent judge between the high and low ;  
 With shield of proof shield me from out the press  
 Of those fierce darts Despair at me doth throw :  
 O make in me those civil wars to cease ;  
 I will good tribute pay, if thou do so.  
 Take thou of me smooth pillows, sweetest bed,  
 A chamber deaf to noise and blind to light,  
 A rosy garland and a weary head :  
 And if these things, as being thine in right,  
 Move not thy heavy grace, thou shalt in me,  
 Livelier than elsewhere, Stella's image see.

SIR P. SIDNEY.

## 914. WOOING STUFF

FAINT Amorist ! what, dost thou think  
 To taste Love's honey, and not drink  
 One dram of gall ? or to devour  
 A world of sweet, and taste no sour ?  
 Dost thou ever think to enter  
 The Elysian fields, that dar'st not venture  
 In Charon's barge ? A lover's mind  
 Must use to sail with every wind.  
 He that loves, and fears to try,  
 Learns his mistress to deny.  
 Doth she chide thee ? 'Tis to show it,  
 That thy coldness makes her do it.  
 Is she silent ? Is she mute ?  
 Silence fully grants thy suit.





## 917. A SUGARED KISS

My Star, because a sugared kiss  
 In sport I sucked while she asleep did lie,  
 Doth lour, nay chide, nay threat for only this !  
 Sweet, it was saucy Love, not humble I.  
 But no 'scuse serves ; she makes her wrath appear  
 In Beauty's throne : see now, who dares come near  
 Those scarlet judges, threatening bloody pain.  
 O heavenly fool, thy most kiss-worthy face  
 Anger invests with such a lovely grace,  
 That Anger's self I needs must kiss again.

SIR P. SIDNEY (*Astrophel and Stella*).

## 918. MY TRUE-LOVE HATH MY HEART

My true-love hath my heart, and I have his,  
 By just exchange one for the other given :  
 I hold his dear, and mine he cannot miss,  
 There never was a better bargain driven :  
 His heart in me keeps me and him 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 :  
 His heart his wound received from my sight.  
 My heart was wounded with his wounded heart,  
 For as from me on him his heart did light,  
 So still me thought in me his heart did smart,  
 Both equal hurt in this change sought our bliss :  
 My true-love hath my heart, and I have his.

SIR P. SIDNEY.

## 919. NO MORE, MY DEAR

No more, my dear, no more these counsels try !  
 O give my passions leave to run their race !  
 Let Fortune lay on me her worst disgrace,  
 Let folk o'ercharged with brain, against me cry,  
 Let clouds bedim my face, break in mine eye,  
 Let me no steps but of lost labour trace,  
 Let all the earth in scorn recount my case,  
 But do not will me from my love to fly.  
 I do not envy Aristotle's wit,  
 Nor do aspire to Caesar's bleeding fame,  
 Nor aught do care, though some above me sit,  
 Nor hope nor wish another course to frame,  
 But that which once may win thy cruel heart.  
 Thou art my wit and thou my virtue art.

SIR P. SIDNEY.

## 920. TO THE MOON

WITH how sad steps, O Moon, thou climb'st the skies !  
 How silently, and with how wan a face !  
 What, may it be, that e'en in heavenly place  
 That busy archer his sharp arrows tries ?  
 Sure, if that long-with-love-acquainted eyes  
 Can judge of love, thou feel'st a lover's case ;  
 I read it in thy looks ; thy languished grace,  
 To me, that feel the like, thy state describes.  
 Then, even of fellowship, O Moon, tell me,  
 Is constant love deemed there but want of wit ?  
 Are beauties there as proud as here they be ?  
 Do they above love to be loved, and yet  
 Those lovers scorn whom that love doth possess ?  
 Do they call virtue, there, ungratefulness ? SIR P. SIDNEY.

## 921. TO MARGARET

MERRY Margaret,  
 As midsummer flower,  
 Gentle as falcon,  
 Or hawk of the tower ;  
 With solace and gladness,  
 Much mirth and no madness,  
 All good and no badness ;  
 So joyously,  
 So maidenly,  
 So womanly  
 Her demeaning  
 In every thing,  
 Far, far passing  
 That I can indite,  
 Or suffice to write  
 Of Merry Margaret  
 As midsummer flower,

Gentle as falcon,  
 Or hawk of the tower.  
 As patient and as still  
 And as full of good will  
 As fair Isaphil,  
 Coliander,  
 Sweet pomander,  
 Good Cassander ;  
 Steadfast of thought,  
 Well made, well wrought,  
 Far may be sought,  
 Ere that ye can find  
 So courteous, so kind,  
 As merry Margaret,  
 This midsummer flower,  
 Gentle as falcon,  
 Or hawk of the tower.

J. SKELTON (*To Mistress Margaret Hussey*)

## 922. TULLOCHGORUM

OH, Tullochgorum's my delight,  
 It gars us a' in ane unite,  
 And ony sumph that keeps up spite,  
     In conscience I abhor him.  
 For blythe and cheery we's be a',  
 Blythe and cheery, blythe and cheery,  
 Blythe and cheery we's be a',  
     And mak' a happy quorum.  
 For blythe and cheery we's be a',  
 As lang as we hae breath to draw,  
 And dance, till we be like to fa',  
     The reel of Tullochgorum.

J. SKINNER.

## 923. FROM 'A SONG TO DAVID'

HE sang of God—the mighty source  
 Of all things—the stupendous force  
 On which all strength depends ;  
 From whose right arm, beneath whose eyes.  
 All period, power, and enterprise  
 Commences, reigns, and ends.

Tell them, I AM, Jehovah said  
 To Moses ; while earth heard in dread,  
 And, smitten to the heart,  
 At once above, beneath, around,  
 All Nature, without voice or sound,  
 Replied, O LORD, THOU ART.

. . . . .  
 Glorious the sun in mid career ;  
 Glorious the assembled fires appear ;  
 Glorious the comet's train :  
 Glorious the trumpet and alarm ;  
 Glorious the Almighty's stretched-out arm ;  
 Glorious the enraptured main :

Glorious the northern lights a-stream ;  
 Glorious the song, when God's the theme ;  
 Glorious the thunder's roar :  
 Glorious Hosanna from the den ;  
 Glorious the catholic Amen ;  
 Glorious the martyr's gore :

Glorious—more glorious, is the crown  
 Of Him that brought salvation down,  
 By meekness called thy Son :  
 Thon that stupendous truth believed ;—  
 And now the matchless deed's achieved,  
 Determined, dared, and done.

C. SMART.

## 924. 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 latticed 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 hath 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 oppressed,  
 I wander like a 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  
 Will you 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 (*Horton*).

## 925. THE SPRING CHANSON

SING to the spring ; but through the spring I look  
 And see, when fields are bare, the woodlands pale,  
 And hear a sad unmated redbreast wail  
 In beechen russets by a leaden brook.  
 For I am tortured by a boding eye,  
 That, gazing on the morning's glorious grain,  
 Beholds late shreds of fiery sunset stain  
 The marble pallor of a western sky.  
 Sweet is thy song, oh merle ! and sweetly sung  
 Thy forefathers in our forefathers' ears ;  
 And this—far more than all—the song endears,  
 In that it knits the old world with the young.  
 Men live and die, the song remains, and when  
 I list the passion of thy vernal breath,  
 Methinks thou singest best to love and death,  
 To happy lovers and to dying men.

A. SMITH.

926. FROM 'AN ADDRESS TO THE MUMMY IN  
BELZONI'S EXHIBITION'

AND thou hast walked about (how strange a story !)  
 In Thebes' streets three thousand years ago,  
 When the Memnonium was in all its glory,  
 And time had not begun to overthrow  
 Those temples, palaces, and piles stupendous,  
 Of which the very ruins are tremendous !

Speak ! for thou long enough hast acted dummy ;  
 Thou hast a tongue, come, let us hear its tune ;  
 Thou'rt standing on thy legs above ground, mummy !  
 Revisiting the glimpses of the moon,  
 Not like thin ghosts or disembodied creatures,  
 But with thy bones and flesh, and limbs and features.

Tell us—for doubtless thou canst recollect—  
 To whom we should assign the Sphinx's fame ?  
 Was Cheops or Cephrenes architect  
 Of either Pyramid that bears his name ?  
 Is Pompey's Pillar really a misnomer ?  
 Had Thebes a hundred gates, as sung by Homer ?

Perhaps thou wert a mason, and forbidden  
 By oath to tell the secrets of thy trade—  
 Then say, what secret melody was hidden  
 In Memnon's statue, which at sunrise played ?  
 Perhaps thou wert a priest—if so, my struggles  
 Are vain, for priestcraft never owns its juggles.

Perchance that very hand, now pinioned flat,  
 Has hob-a-nobbed with Pharaoh, glass to glass ;  
 Or dropped a halfpenny in Homer's hat,  
 Or doffed thine own to let Queen Dido pass,  
 Or held, by Solomon's own invitation,  
 A torch at the great Temple's dedication.      H. SMITH.

927. MOURN, HAPLESS CALEDONIA, MOURN  
 [1746.]

MOURN, hapless Caledonia, mourn  
 Thy banished peace, thy laurels torn !  
 Thy sons, for valour long renowned,  
 Lie slaughtered on their native ground ;  
 Thy hospitable roofs no more  
 Invite the stranger to the door ;  
 In smoky ruins sunk they lie,  
 The monuments of cruelty.

The wretched owner sees afar  
 His all become the prey of war ;  
 Bethinks him of his babes and wife,  
 Then smites his breast, and curses life.  
 Thy swains are famished on the rocks,  
 Where once they fed their wanton flocks :  
 Thy ravished virgins shriek in vain ;  
 Thy infants perish on the plain.

What boots it, then, in every clime,  
 Through the wide-spreading waste of time,  
 Thy martial glory, crowned with praise,  
 Still shone with undiminished blaze ?  
 Thy towering spirit now is broke,  
 Thy neck is bended to the yoke.  
 What foreign arms could never quell,  
 By civil rage and rancour fell.      T. G. SMOLLETT.

928. ODE TO LEVEN WATER

ON Leven's banks, while free to rove,  
 And tune the rural pipe to love,  
 I envied not the happiest swain  
 That ever trod the Arcadian plain.  
 Pure stream, in whose transparent wave  
 My youthful limbs I wont to lave ;  
 No torrents stain thy limpid source,  
 No rocks impede thy dimpling course,  
 That sweetly warbles o'er its bed,  
 With white round polished pebbles spread ;  
 While, lightly poised, the scaly brood  
 In myriads cleave thy crystal flood ;

The springing trout in speckled pride,  
 The salmon, monarch of the tide ;  
 The ruthless pike, intent on war,  
 The silver eel, and mottled par.  
 Devolving from thy parent lake,  
 A charming maze thy waters make,  
 By bowers of birch and groves of pine,  
 And edges flowered with eglantine.

Still on thy banks so gaily green  
 May numerous herds and flocks be seen :  
 And lasses chanting o'er the pail,  
 And shepherds piping in the dale ;  
 And ancient faith that knows no guile,  
 And industry embrowned with toil ;  
 And hearts resolved and hands prepared  
 The blessings they enjoy to guard ! T. G. SMOLLETT.

#### 929. WHEN SAPPHO TUNED THE RAPTURED STRAIN

WHEN Sappho tuned the raptured strain  
 The listening wretch forgot his pain ;  
 With art divine the lyre she strung,  
 Like thee she played, like thee she sung.

For while she struck the quivering wire,  
 The eager breast was all on fire ;  
 And when she joined the vocal lay,  
 The captive soul was charmed away.

But had she added still to these  
 Thy softer, chaster power to please,  
 Thy beauteous air of sprightly youth,  
 Thy native smiles of artless truth :

She ne'er had pined beneath disdain,  
 She ne'er had played and sung in vain,  
 Despair had ne'er her soul possessed  
 To dash on rocks the tender breast. T. G. SMOLLETT.

#### 930. HOW BEAUTIFUL IS NIGHT

How beautiful is night !  
 A dewy freshness fills the silent air ;  
 No mist obscures, nor cloud, nor speck, nor stain,  
 Breaks the serene of heaven ;  
 In full-orbed glory yonder moon divine  
 Rolls through the dark blue depths.  
 Beneath her steady ray  
 The desert-circle spreads,  
 Like the round ocean, girdled with the sky.  
 How beautiful is night ! R. SOUTHEY (*Thalaba*).



## 931. THE BATTLE OF 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 rivulet  
 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 new-born 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.'

## 932. MY DAYS AMONG THE DEAD ARE PASSED

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 bedewed  
 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.

## 933. THE IMMORTALITY OF LOVE

THEY sin who tell us Love can die.  
 With life all other passions fly,  
 All others are but vanity.  
 In Heaven Ambition cannot dwell,  
 Nor Avarice in the vaults of Hell ;  
 Earthly these passions of the Earth,  
 They perish where they have their birth ;  
 But Love is undestructible.  
 Its holy flame for ever burneth,  
 From Heaven it came, to Heaven returneth ;  
 Too oft on Earth a troubled guest,  
 At times deceived, at times oppressed,  
 It here is tried and purified,  
 Then hath in heaven its perfect rest ;  
 It soweth here with toil and care,  
 But the harvest time of Love is there.

Oh! when a mother meets on high  
 The Babe she lost in infancy,  
 Hath she not then, for pains and fears,  
 The day of woe, the watchful night,  
 For all her sorrow, all her tears,  
 An over-payment of delight?

R. SOUTHEY (*The Curse of Kehama*).

### 934. UPON THE IMAGE OF DEATH

BEFORE my face the picture hangs,  
 That daily should put me in mind  
 Of those cold names and bitter pangs  
 That shortly I am like to find;  
 But yet, alas! full little I  
 Do think hereon, that I must die.

My ancestors are turned to clay  
 And many of my mates are gone;  
 My youngers daily drop away,  
 And can I think to 'scape alone?  
 No, no; I know that I must die,  
 And yet my life amend not I.

R. SOUTHWELL.

### 935. NEW PRINCE, NEW POMP

BEHOLD a silly tender Babe,  
 In freezing winter night,  
 In homely manger trembling lies;  
 Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full. No man will  
 yield

This little Pilgrim bed;  
 But forced He is, with silly beasts,  
 In crib to shroud his head.

Despise him not for lying there:  
 First what He is inquire.  
 An orient pearl is often found  
 In depth of dirty mire.

Weigh not his crib, his wooden  
 dish,  
 Nor beasts that by him feed;  
 Weigh not his mother's poor attire,  
 Nor Joseph's simple weed.

This stable is a Prince's court;  
 The crib, his chair of state;  
 The beasts are parcel of his  
 pomp;  
 The wooden dish his plate.

The persons in that poor attire  
 His royal liveries wear.  
 The Prince himself is come from  
 heaven;  
 This pomp is prizèd there.

With joy approach, O Christian  
 wight!  
 Do homage to thy King;  
 And highly praise his humble  
 pomp  
 Which He from heaven doth  
 bring.

R. SOUTHWELL.

## 936. LOSS IN DELAYS

SHUN delays, they breed remorse,  
 Take thy time while time doth serve thee,  
 Creeping snails have weakest force,  
 Fly their fault lest thou repent thee,  
 Good is best when soonest wrought,  
 Lingering labours come to nought.

. . . . .  
 Time wears all his locks before,  
 Take thou hold upon his forehead ;  
 When he flies he turns no more  
 And behind his scalp is naked.  
 Works adjourned have many stays ;  
 Long demurs breed new delays. R. SOUTHWELL.

## 937. TIMES GO BY TURNS

THE loppèd tree in time may grow again,  
 Most naked plants renew both fruit and flower ;  
 The sorriest wight may find release of pain,  
 The driest soil suck in some moistening shower ;  
 Times go by turns, and chances change by course,  
 From foul to fair, from better hap to worse.

The sea of Fortune doth not ever flow,  
 She draws her favours to the lowest ebb ;  
 Her tides have equal times to come and go,  
 Her loom doth weave the fine and coarsest web ;  
 No joy so great but runneth to an end,  
 No hap so hard but may in fine amend.

Not always fall of leaf, nor ever spring,  
 No endless night, yet not eternal day ;  
 The saddest birds a season find to sing,  
 The roughest storm a calm may soon allay :  
 Thus, with succeeding turns, God tempereth all,  
 That man may hope to rise, yet fear to fall.

A chance may win that by mischance was lost ;  
 That net that holds no great, takes little fish ;  
 In some things all, in all things none are crossed ;  
 Few all they need, but none have all they wish.  
 Unmingled joys here to no man befall ;  
 Who least, hath some ; who most, hath never all.

R. SOUTHWELL.

## 938. TO —

Too late I stayed—forgive the crime ;  
 Unheeded flew the hours ;  
 How noiseless falls the foot of Time,  
 That only treads on flowers !

What eye with clear account remarks  
 The ebbing of the glass,  
 When all its sands are diamond sparks,  
 That dazzle as they pass !

Oh, who to sober measurement  
 Time's happy swiftness brings,  
 When birds of Paradise have lent  
 Their plumage for his wings !      W. R. SPENCER.

## 939. THE REDCROSS KNIGHT

A GENTLE knight was pricking on the plain,  
 Yclad in mighty arms and silver shield,  
 Wherein old dints of deep wounds did remain,  
 The cruel marks of many a bloody field ;  
 Yet arms till that time did he never wield.  
 His angry steed did chide his foaming bit,  
 As much disdainful to the curb to yield :  
 Full jolly knight he seemed and fair did sit,  
 As one for knightly jousts and fierce encounters fit.

And on his breast a bloody cross he bore,  
 The dear remembrance of his dying Lord,  
 For whose sweet sake that glorious badge he wore,  
 And dead, as living, ever Him adored :  
 Upon his shield the like was also scored,  
 For sovereign hope, which in his help he had.  
 Right faithful true he was in deed and word ;  
 But of his cheer did seem too solemn sad :  
 Yet nothing did he dread, but ever was ydrad.

E. SPENSER (*The Faerie Queene*).

## 940. FROM '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 Prince's court, and expectation vain  
 Of idle hopes, which still do fly away,

Like empty shadows, did afflict my brain)  
 Walked 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 adorned 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 chanced 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, entrailèd curiously,  
 In which they gathered flowers to fill their flasket,  
 And with fine fingers cropped full feateously  
 The tender stalks on high.  
 Of every sort, which in that meadow grew,  
 They gathered 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 lea ;  
 Two fairer birds I yet did never see ;  
 The snow, which doth the top of Pindus strew,  
 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,  
 Seemed 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.

E. SPENSER.

## 941. WHAT HELL IT IS

FULL little knowest thou that hast not tried,  
 What hell it is in suing long to bide ;  
 To lose good days that might be better spent ;  
 To waste long nights in pensive discontent,  
 To speed to-day, to be put back to-morrow ;  
 To feed on hope, to pine with fear and sorrow ;  
 To have thy princess' grace, yet want her peers' ;  
 To have thy asking, yet wait many years ;  
 To pet thy soul with crosses and with cares ;  
 To eat thy heart through comfortless despairs ;  
 To fawn, to crouch, to wait, to ride, to run,  
 To spend, to give, to wait, to be undone.

E. SPENSER (*Mother Hubbard's Tale*).

## 942. MOST GLORIOUS LORD OF LIFE

MOST glorious Lord of life ! that, on this day,  
 Didst make Thy triumph over death and sin ;  
 And, having harrowed hell, didst bring away  
 Captivity thence captive, us to win :  
 This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin ;  
 And grant that we, for whom Thou didest die,  
 Being with Thy dear blood clean washed from sin,  
 May live for ever in felicity !  
 And that Thy love we weighing worthily,  
 May likewise love Thee for the same again ;  
 And for Thy sake that all like dear didst buy,  
 With love may one another entertain :  
 So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought ;  
 Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

E. SPENSER.

## 943. ONE DAY I WROTE HER NAME

ONE day I wrote her name upon the strand,  
 But came the waves and washèd it away :  
 Again I wrote it with a second hand,  
 But came the tide and made my pains his prey.  
 ' Vain man,' said she, ' that dost in vain essay  
 A mortal thing so to immortalize ;  
 For I myself shall like to this decay,  
 And eke my name be wipèd out likewise.'  
 ' Not so,' quoth I ; ' let baser things devise  
 To die in dust, but you shall live by fame ;  
 My verse your virtues rare shall eternize,  
 And in the heavens write your glorious name :

Where, whenas Death shall all the world subdue,

Our love shall live, and later life renew. E. SPENSER.

## 944. THE SEASONS

## SPRING

So forth issued the Seasons of the year ;  
 First, lusty Spring, all dight in leaves of flowers  
 That freshly budded and new blooms did bear,  
 In which a thousand birds had built their bowers  
 That sweetly sung to call forth paramours ;  
 And in his hand a javelin he did bear,  
 And on his head (as fit for warlike stoures)  
 A gilt engraven morion he did wear ;  
 That as some did him love, so others did him fear.

## SUMMER

Then came the jolly Summer, being dight  
 In a thin silken cassock coloured green,  
 That was unlinèd all, to be more light :  
 And on his head a garland well beseen.  
 He wore, from which, as he had chafèd been,  
 The sweat did drop ; and in his hand he bore .  
 A bow and shafts, as he in forest green  
 Had hunted late the leopard or the boar,  
 And now would bathe his limbs with labour heated sore.

## AUTUMN

Then came the Autumn all in yellow clad,  
 As though he joyèd in his plenteous store,  
 Laden with fruits that made him laugh, full glad  
 That he had banished hunger, which to-fore  
 Had by the belly oft him pinchèd sore :  
 Upon his head a wreath, that was enrolled  
 With ears of corn of every sort, he bore ;  
 And in his hand a sickle he did hold,  
 To reap the ripened fruits the which the earth had yold.

## WINTER

Lastly came Winter, clothèd all in freize,  
 Chattering his teeth for cold that did him chill ;  
 Whilst on his hoary beard his breath did freeze,  
 And the dull drops that from his purpled bill  
 As from a limbeck did adown distil :  
 In his right hand a tipped staff he held,  
 With which his feeble steps he stayèd still ;  
 For he was faint with cold, and weak with eld ;  
 That scarce his loosèd limbs he able was to weld.

E. SPENSER (*The Faerie Queene*).



## 945. SWEET AND SOUR

SWEET is the rose, but grows upon a brier;  
 Sweet is the juniper, but sharp his bough;  
 Sweet is the eglantine, but pricketh near;  
 Sweet is the fir-bloom, but his branches rough;  
 Sweet is the cypress, but his rind is tough;  
 Sweet is the nut, but bitter is his pill;  
 Sweet is the broom-flower, but yet sour enough;  
 And sweet is moly, but his root is ill:  
 So every sweet with sour is tempered still.  
 That maketh it be coveted the more;  
 For easy things, that may be got at will,  
 Most sorts of men do set but little store.

Why then should I account of little pain,  
 That endless pleasure shall unto me gain? E. SPENSER.

## 946. FROM THE 'EPITHALAMIUM'

WAKE now, my love, awake; for it is time;  
 The rosy morn long since left Tithon's bed,  
 All ready to her silver coach to climb;  
 And Phoebus 'gins to show his glorious head.  
 Hark! how the cheerful birds do chant their lays,  
 And carol of love's praise.  
 The merry lark his matins sings aloft;  
 The thrush replies; the mavis descant plays;  
 The ousel shrills; the ruddock warbles soft;  
 So goodly all agree, with sweet consent,  
 To this day's merriment.  
 Ah! my dear love, why do ye sleep thus long?  
 When meeter were that ye should now awake,  
 To await the coming of your joyous make,  
 And hearken to the birds' love-learned song,  
 The dewy leaves among!  
 For they of joy and pleasure to you sing,  
 That all the woods them answer, and their echo ring.

. . . . .  
 Tell me, ye merchants' daughters, did ye see  
 So fair a creature in your town before;  
 So sweet, so lovely, and so mild as she,  
 Adorned with beauty's grace and virtue's store?

. . . . .  
 Why stand ye still, ye virgins, in amaze,  
 Upon her so to gaze,  
 While ye forget your former lay to sing,  
 To which the woods did answer, and your echo ring?

But if ye saw that which no eyes can see,  
 The inward beauty of her lively sprite,  
 Garnished with heavenly gifts of high degree,  
 Much more then would ye wonder at that sight,

. . . . .

Had ye once seen these her celestial treasures,  
 And unrevealèd pleasures,  
 Then would ye wonder, and her praises sing,  
 That all the woods should answer, and your echo ring.

Open the temple-gates unto my love,  
 Open them wide that she may enter in,  
 And all the posts adorn as doth behove,  
 And all the pillars deck with garlands trim,  
 For to receive this saint with honour due,  
 That cometh in to you.

With trembling steps and humble reverence,  
 She cometh in before the Almighty's view :  
 Of her ye virgins learn obedience,  
 When so ye come into these holy places,  
 To humble your proud faces :  
 Bring her up to the high altar, that she may  
 The sacred ceremonies there partake,  
 The which do endless matrimony make ;  
 And let the roaring organs loudly play  
 The praises of the Lord, in lively notes,  
 The while, with hollow throats,  
 The choristers the joyous anthem sing,  
 That all the woods may answer, and their echo ring.

Behold, while she before the altar stands,  
 Hearing the holy priest that to her speaks,  
 And blesseth her with his two happy hands,  
 How the red roses flush up in her cheeks,  
 And the pure snow, with goodly vermeil stain,  
 Like crimson dyed in grain :  
 That even the angels, which continually  
 About the sacred altar do remain,  
 Forget their service and about her fly,  
 Oft peeping in her face, that seems more fair  
 The more they on it stare.  
 But her sad eyes, still fastened on the ground,  
 Are governèd with goodly modesty,  
 That suffers not one look to glance awry,  
 Which may let in a little thought unsound,  
 Why blush ye, love, to give to me your hand,  
 The pledge of all our band !  
 Sing, ye sweet angels, alleluia sing,  
 That all the woods may answer, and your echo ring.

Now all is done : bring home the bride again ;  
 Bring home the triumph of our victory :  
 Bring home with you the glory of her gain,  
 With joyance bring her, and with jollity.  
 Never had man more joyful day than this,  
 Whom Heaven would heap with bliss.  
 Make feast, therefore, now all this livelong day :  
 This day for ever to me holy is.  
 Pour out the wine without restraint or stay,  
 Pour not by cups, but by the bellyful,  
 Pour out to all that wull,  
 And sprinkle all the posts and walls with wine,  
 That they may sweat, and drunken be withal.  
 Crown ye god Bacchus with a coronal,  
 And Hymen also crown with wreaths of vine,  
 And let the Graces dance unto the rest,  
 For they can do it best :  
 The while the maidens do their carol sing  
 To which the woods shall answer, and their echo ring.  
E. SPENSER.

## 947. A DEPOSITION FROM BEAUTY

THOUGH when I loved thee thou wert fair,  
 Thou art no longer so ;  
 These glories all the pride they wear  
 Unto opinion owe.  
 Beauties, like stars, in borrowed lustre shine ;  
 And 'twas my love that gave thee thine.  
 The flames that dwelt within thine eye  
 Do now with mine expire ;  
 Thy brightest graces fade and die  
 At once with my desire.  
 Love's fires thus mutual influence return ;  
 Thine cease to shine, when mine to burn.  
 Then, proud Celinda, hope no more  
 To be implored or wooed,  
 Since by thy scorn thou dost restore  
 The wealth my love bestowed ;  
 And thy despised disdain too late shall find  
 That none are fair but who are kind. T. STANLEY.

## 948. ENVOY

Go, little book, and wish to all  
 Flowers in the garden, meat in the hall,  
 A bin of wine, a spice of wit,  
 A house with lawns enclosing it,  
 A living river by the door,  
 A nightingale in the sycamore ! R. L. STEVENSON.

## 949. REQUIEM

UNDER the wide and starry sky,  
Dig the grave and let me lie.  
Glad did I live and gladly die,  
And I laid me down with a will.

This be the verse you grave for me:  
*Here he lies where he longed to be;*  
*Home is the sailor, home from sea,*  
*And the hunter home from the hill.*

R. L. STEVENSON.

## 950. THE SPANISH ARMADA

FROM merciless invaders,  
From wicked men's device,  
O God, arise and help us,  
To quell our enemies.

Sink deep their potent navies,  
Their strength and courage  
break,  
O God! arise and arm us,  
For Jesus Christ, His sake.

Though cruel Spain and Parma  
With heathen legions come,  
O God! arise and arm us,  
We'll die for our home!

We will not change our credo  
For Pope, nor book, nor bell;  
And if the Devil come himself,  
We'll hound him back to hell.

J. STILL.

## 951. ALE

I CANNOT eat but little meat,  
My stomach is not good;  
But sure, I think that I can  
drink  
With him that wears a hood.  
Though I go bare, take ye no  
care,  
I am nothing a-cold;  
I stuff my skin so full within  
Of jolly good ale and old.  
Back and side go bare, go bare,  
Both foot and hand go cold;  
But, belly, God send thee good ale  
enough,  
Whether it be new or old.

I love no roast but a nut-brown  
toast,  
And a crab laid in the fire;  
A little bread shall do me stead;  
Much bread I not desire.  
No frost, nor snow, no wind, I trow,  
Can hurt me if I would;  
I am so wrapped, and throughly  
lapped  
Of jolly good ale and old.  
Back and side go bare, go bare, &c.

And Tyb my wife, that as her life  
Loveth well good ale to seek,  
Full oft drinks she, till ye may see  
The tears run down her cheek;  
Then doth she troll to me the bowl,  
Even as a malt-worm should;  
And saith, 'Sweetheart, I took  
my part  
Of this jolly good ale and old!'  
Back and side go bare, go bare, &c.

Now let them drink till they nod  
and wink,  
Even as good fellows should do;  
They shall not miss to have the bliss  
Good ale doth bring men to;  
And all poor souls that have  
scoured bowls  
Or have them lustily trolled,  
God save the lives of them and  
their wives,

Whether they be young or old.  
Back and side go bare, go bare,  
Both foot and hand go cold;  
But, belly, God send thee good ale  
enough,  
Whether it be new or old.

J. STILL.

## 952. HAST THOU SEEN THE DOWN IN THE AIR

Hast thou seen the down in the air,  
 When wanton blasts have tossed it ?  
 Or the ship on the sea,  
 When ruder winds have crossed it ?

Hast thou marked the crocodile's weeping,  
 Or the fox's sleeping ?  
 Or hast thou viewed the peacock in his pride,  
 Or the dove by his bride ? . . .

O so fickle, O so vain, O so false, so false is she !

SIR J. SUCKLING.

## 953. I PRITHEE SEND ME BACK MY HEART

I PRITHEE send me back my heart,  
 Since I cannot have thine ;  
 For if from yours you will not part,  
 Why, then, shouldst thou have  
 mine ?

Yet now I think on't, let it lie,  
 To find it were in vain ;  
 For thou hast a thief in either eye  
 Would steal it back again.

Why should two hearts in one  
 breast lie,  
 And yet not lodge together ?  
 O Love ! where is thy sympathy,  
 If thus our breasts thou sever ?

But love is such a mystery,  
 I cannot find it out ;  
 For when I think I'm best resolved,  
 I then am in most doubt.

Then farewell care, and farewell woe ;

I will no longer pine ;

For I'll believe I have her heart,

As much as she hath mine.

SIR J. SUCKLING.

## 954. FROM 'A BALLAD UPON A WEDDING'

I TELL thee, Dick, where I have been,  
 Where I the rarest things have seen,

Oh, things beyond compare !

Such sights again cannot be found  
 In any place on English ground,  
 Be it at wake or fair.

At Charing Cross, hard by the way  
 Where we (thou know'st) do sell our hay,

There is a house with stairs ;

And there did I see coming down  
 Such folk as are not in our town,  
 Forty at least, in pairs.

Amongst the rest, one pestilent fine  
 (His beard no bigger, though, than thine !)

Walked on before the rest.

Our landlord looks like nothing to him ;  
 The king (God bless him !), 'twould undo him,  
 Should he go still so dressed. . . .

But wot you what ? The youth was going  
To make an end of all his wooing ;

The Parson for him stayed.

Yet, by his leave, for all his haste,  
He did not so much wish all passed,  
Perchance, as did the maid.

The maid (and thereby hangs a tale)  
For such a maid no Whitsun ale  
Could ever yet produce ;

No grape that's kindly ripe could be  
So round, so plump, so soft, as she ;  
Nor half so full of juice !

Her finger was so small, the ring  
Would not stay on ; which they did bring.  
It was too wide a peck !

And to say truth, for out it must,  
It looked like the great collar (just)  
About our young colt's neck.

Her feet, beneath her petticoat,  
Like little mice stole in and out,  
As if they feared the light :  
But oh ! she dances such a way,  
No sun, upon an Easter Day,  
Is half so fine a sight ! . . .

Her cheeks so rare a white was on ;  
No daisy makes comparison,  
Who sees them is undone.  
For streaks of red were mingled there,  
Such as are on a Katherine pear  
(The side that's next the sun).

Her lips were red, and one was thin  
Compared to that was next her chin  
(Some bee had stung it newly).  
But, Dick, her eyes so guard her face,  
I durst no more upon them gaze,  
Than on the sun in July.

Her mouth so small, when she does speak  
Thou'dst swear her teeth her words did break,  
That they might passage get :  
But she so handled still the matter,  
They came as good as ours or better,  
And are not spent a whit ! . . .

Passion o' me ! how I run on ;  
There 's that that would be thought upon,  
I trow, besides the bride :

The business of the Kitchen's great,  
For it is fit that men should eat ;  
Nor was it there denied.

Just in the nick, the cook knocked thrice,  
And all the waiters, in a trice,  
His summons did obey.  
Each serving-man, with dish in hand,  
Marched boldly up like our trained band,  
Presented, and away !

When all the meat was on the table  
What man of knife or teeth was able  
To stay to be entreated ?  
And this the very reason was,  
Before the Parson could say grace  
The company was seated.

The business of the kitchen's great,  
For it is fit that men should eat ;  
Nor was it there denied.  
(Passion o' me, how I run on !  
There's that, that would be thought upon,  
I trow, beside the bride).

Now hats fly off ; and youths carouse :  
Healts first go round, and then the house.  
The bride's came thick and thick.  
And when 'twas named another's health,  
Perhaps he made it hers by stealth.  
(And who could help it, Dick ?)

O' th' sudden, up they rise and dance :  
Then sit again and sigh and glance,  
Then dance again and kiss.  
Thus several ways the time did pass ;  
Whilst every woman wished her place,  
And every man wished his !

SIR J. SUCKLING.

955. OUT UPON IT, I HAVE LOVED

OUT upon it, I have loved  
Three whole days together !  
And am like to love three more,  
If it prove fair weather.

Time shall moult away his wings  
Ere he shall discover  
In the whole wide world again  
Such a constant lover.

But the spite on't is, no praise  
Is due at all to me :  
Love with me had made no stays,  
Had it any been but she.

Had it any been but she,  
And that very face,  
There had been at least ere this  
A dozen dozen in her place.

SIR J. SUCKLING.

## 956. WHY SO PALE AND WAN, FOND LOVER

WHY so pale and wan, fond lover ?  
 Prithee, why so pale ?  
 Will, when looking well can't move her,  
 Looking ill prevail ?  
 Prithee, why so pale ?

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

SIR J. SUCKLING.

## 957. FROM 'A RHAPSODY ON POETRY'

HOBBS clearly proves that every creature  
 Lives in a state of war by nature.  
 The greater for the smallest watch,  
 But meddle seldom with their match.  
 A whale of moderate size will draw  
 A shoal of herrings down his maw ;  
 A fox with geese his belly crams ;  
 A wolf destroys a thousand lambs.  
 But search among the rhyming race,  
 The brave are worried by the base.  
 If on Parnassus' top you sit,  
 You rarely bite, are always bit.

. . . . .  
 The vermin only tease and pinch  
 Their foes superior by an inch.  
 So, naturalists observe, a flea  
 Hath smaller fleas that on him prey ;  
 And these have smaller still to bite 'em,  
 And so proceed *ad infinitum*.  
 Thus every poet in his kind  
 Is bit by him that comes behind :  
 Who, though too little to be seen,  
 Can tease, and gall, and give the spleen.

J. SWIFT.



## 958. FROM 'ON THE DEATH OF DR. SWIFT'

PERHAPS I may allow the Dean  
 Had too much satire in his vein ;  
 And seemed determined not to starve it,  
 Because no age could more deserve it.  
 Yet malice never was his aim ;  
 He lashed the vice, but spared the name ;  
 No individual could resent,  
 Where thousands equally were meant ;  
 His satire points at no defect,  
 But what all mortals may correct ;  
 For he abhorred that senseless tribe  
 Who call it humour when they gibe :  
 He spared a hump, or crooked nose,  
 Whose owners set not up for beaux.  
 True genuine dullness moved his pity,  
 Unless it offered to be witty.  
 Those who their ignorance confessed,  
 He ne'er offended with a jest ;  
 But laughed to hear an idiot quote  
 A verse from Horace learned by rote. J. SWIFT.

## 959. CEASE NOT TO LEARN

CEASE not to learn until thou cease to live :  
 Think that day lost, wherein thou draw'st no letter,  
 Nor gain'st no lesson, that new grace may give,  
 To make thyself learned, wiser, better.

Who readeth much, and never meditates,  
 Is like the greedy eater of much food,  
 Who so surcleys his stomach with his cates,  
 That commonly they do him little good. J. SYLVESTER.

## 960. THE GLORIOUS STARS OF HEAVEN

I'LL ne'er believe that the Arch-Architect  
 With all these fires the heavenly arches decked  
 Only for show, and with their glistening shields  
 To amaze poor shepherds watching in the fields :  
 I'll ne'er believe that the least flower that franks  
 Our garden borders, or the common banks,  
 And the least stone that in her warming lap  
 Our kind nurse Earth doth covetously wrap  
 Hath some peculiar virtue of its own,  
 And that the glorious stars of Heaven have none,  
 But shine in vain, and have no charge precise,  
 But to be walking in Heaven's galleries,  
 And through the palace up and down to clamber  
 As golden gulls about a presence-chamber.

J. SYLVESTER (*Translation of Du Bartas*).

## 961. WERE I AS BASE AS IS THE LOWLY PLAIN

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,  
 Wheresoe'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 waxed blind, and till the world were done.  
 Wheresoe'er I am, below, or else above you,  
 Wheresoe'er you are, my heart shall truly love you.  
J. SYLVESTER.

## 962. ELENA'S SONG

QUOTH tongue of neither maid nor wife  
 To heart of neither wife nor maid,  
 Lead we not here a jolly life  
 Betwixt the shine and shade ?

Quoth heart of neither maid nor wife  
 To tongue of neither wife nor maid,  
 Thou wag'st but I am worn with strife,  
 And feel like flowers that fade.

SIR H. TAYLOR (*Philip van Artevelde*).

## 963. IN THE VALLEY OF CAUTERETS

ALL along the valley, stream that flashest white,  
 Deepening thy voice with the deepening of the night,  
 All along the valley, where thy waters flow,  
 I walked with one I loved two and thirty years ago.  
 All along the valley while I walked to-day,  
 The two and thirty years were a mist that rolls away ;  
 For all along the valley, down thy rocky bed,  
 Thy living voice to me was as the voice of the dead,  
 And all along the valley, by rock and cave and tree,  
 The voice of the dead was a living voice to me.

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON.

## 964. AS THROUGH THE LAND AT EVE WE WENT

As through the land at eve we went,  
 And plucked the ripened ears,  
 We fell out, my wife and I,  
 O we fell out I know not why,  
 And kissed 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 kissed again with tears.

LORD TENNYSON (*The Princess*),

## 965. 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 vanished 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.

## 966. COME DOWN, O MAID

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 dropped 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 through the lawn,  
 The moan of doves in immemorial elms,  
 And murmuring of innumerable bees.

LORD TENNYSON (*The Princess*).

### 967. THE LOTOS-EATERS

'COURAGE !' he said, and pointed toward the land,  
 'This mounting wave will roll us shoreward soon.'  
 In the afternoon they came unto a land,  
 In which it seemèd always afternoon.  
 All round the coast the languid air did swoon,  
 Breathing like one that hath a weary dream.  
 Full-faced above the valley stood the moon ;  
 And like a downward smoke, the slender stream  
 Along the cliff to fall and pause and fall did seem.

A land of streams ! some, like a downward smoke,  
 Slow-dropping veils of thinnest lawn, did go ;  
 And some through wavering lights and shadows broke,  
 Rolling a slumbrous sheet of foam below.  
 They saw the gleaming river seaward flow  
 From the inner land : far off, three mountain-tops,  
 Three silent pinnacles of aged snow,  
 Stood sunset-flushed : and, dewed with showery drops,  
 Up-clomb the shadowy pine above the woven copse.

The charmèd sunset lingered low adown  
 In the red West: through mountain clefts the dale  
 Was seen far inland, and the yellow down  
 Bordered with palm, and many a winding vale  
 And meadow, set with slender galingale;  
 A land where all things always seemed the same!  
 And round about the keel with faces pale,  
 Dark faces pale against that rosy flame,  
 The mild-eyed melancholy Lotos-eaters came.

Branches they bore of that enchanted stem,  
 Laden with flower and fruit, whereof they gave  
 To each, but whoso did receive of them,  
 And taste, to him the gushing of the wave  
 Far far away did seem to mourn and rave  
 On alien shores; and if his fellow spake  
 His voice was thin, as voices from the grave;  
 And deep-asleep he seemed, yet all awake,  
 And music in his ears his beating heart did make.

They sat them down upon the yellow sand,  
 Between the sun and moon upon the shore;  
 And sweet it was to dream of Fatherland,  
 Of child, and wife, and slave; but evermore  
 Most weary seemed the sea, weary the oar,  
 Weary the wandering fields of barren foam.  
 Then some one said, 'We will return no more';  
 And all at once they sang, 'Our island home  
 Is far beyond the wave; we will no longer roam.'

#### CHORIC SONG

Hateful is the dark-blue sky,  
 Vaulted o'er the dark-blue sea.  
 Death is the end of life; ah, why  
 Should life all labour be?  
 Let us alone. Time driveth onward fast,  
 And in a little while our lips are dumb.  
 Let us alone. What is it that will last?  
 All things are taken from us, and become  
 Portions and parcels of the dreadful Past.  
 Let us alone. What pleasure can we have  
 To war with evil? Is there any peace  
 In ever climbing up the climbing wave?  
 All things have rest, and ripen towards the grave  
 In silence; ripen, fall, and cease.  
 Give us long rest or death, dark death, or dreamful ease.

. . . . .

Dear is the memory of our wedded lives,  
 And dear the last embraces of our wives  
 And their warm tears : but all hath suffered change :  
 For surely now our household hearths are cold :  
 Our sons inherit us : our looks are strange :  
 And we should come like ghosts to trouble joy.  
 Or else the island princes over-bold  
 Have eat our substance, and the minstrel sings  
 Before them of the ten-years' war in Troy,  
 And our great deeds, as half-forgotten things.

. . . . .

The Lotos blooms below the barren peak :  
 The Lotos blows by every winding creek :  
 All day the wind breathes low with mellow tone :  
 Through every hollow cave and alley lone  
 Round and round the spicy downs the yellow Lotos-dust is blown.  
 We have had enough of action and of motion we,  
 Rolled to starboard, rolled to larboard, when the surge was seething  
 free,  
 Where the wallowing monster spouted his foam-fountains in the sea.  
 Let us swear an oath, and keep it with an equal mind,  
 In the hollow Lotos-land to live and lie reclined  
 On the hills like Gods together, careless of mankind.  
 For they lie beside their nectar, and the bolts are hurled  
 Far below them in the valleys, and the clouds are lightly curled  
 Round their golden houses, girdled with the gleaming world :  
 Where they smile in secret, looking over wasted lands,  
 Blight and famine, plague and earthquake, roaring deeps and fiery  
 sands,  
 Clanging fights, and flaming towns, and sinking ships, and praying  
 hands.  
 But they smile, they find a music centred in a doleful song  
 Steaming up, a lamentation and an ancient tale of wrong,  
 Like a tale of little meaning though the words are strong ;  
 Chanted from an ill-used race of men that cleave the soil,  
 Sow the seed, and reap the harvest with enduring toil,  
 Storing yearly little dues of wheat, and wine, and oil ;  
 Till they perish and they suffer—some, 'tis whispered,—down in hell  
 Suffer endless anguish, others in Elysian valleys dwell,  
 Resting weary limbs at last on beds of asphodel.  
 Surely, surely, slumber is more sweet than toil, the shore  
 Than labour in the deep mid-ocean, wind and wave and oar ;  
 Oh rest ye, brother mariners, we will not wander more.

LORD TENNYSON.

## 968. 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 soiled 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,  
 Through 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.

## 969. TO QUEEN VICTORIA

HER court was pure ; her life serene ;  
 God gave her peace ; her land reposed ;  
 A thousand claims to reverence closed  
 In her as Mother, Wife, and Queen ;  
 And statesmen at her council met  
 Who knew the seasons when to take  
 Occasion by the hand, and make  
 The bounds of freedom wider yet

By shaping some august decree,  
Which kept her throne unshaken still,  
Broad-based upon her people's will,  
And compassed by the inviolate sea.

LORD TENNYSON.

970. HOME THEY BROUGHT HER WARRIOR DEAD

HOME they brought her warrior dead :  
She nor swooned, nor uttered cry :  
All her maidens, watching, said,  
'She must weep or she will die.'

Then they praised him, soft and low,  
Called him worthy to be loved,  
Truest friend and noblest foe ;  
Yet she neither spoke nor moved.

Stole a maiden from her place,  
Lightly to the warrior stepped,  
Took the face-cloth from the face ;  
Yet she neither moved nor wept.

Rose a nurse of ninety years,  
Set his child upon her knee—  
Like summer tempest came her tears—  
'Sweet my child, I live for thee.'

LORD TENNYSON (*The Princess*).

971. IF LOVE BE LOVE

'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 garnered 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 (*Idylls of the King : Merlin and Vivien*).

972. FROM 'LOCKSLEY HALL'

IN the Spring a fuller crimson comes upon the robin's breast ;  
IN the Spring the wanton lapwing gets himself another crest ;



In the Spring a livelier iris changes on the burnished dove ;  
 In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.

As the husband is, the wife is : thou art mated with a clown,  
 And the grossness of his nature will have weight to drag thee down.  
 He will hold thee, when his passion shall have spent its novel force,  
 Something better than his dog, a little dearer than his horse.

Men, my brothers, men the workers, ever reaping something new :  
 That which they have done but earnest of the things that they shall do :  
 For I dipped into the future, far as human eye could see,  
 Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be ;  
 Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,  
 Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales ;  
 Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew  
 From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue ;  
 Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm,  
 With the standards of the peoples plunging through the thunder-storm ;  
 Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle-flags were furled  
 In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

Yet I doubt not through the ages one increasing purpose runs,  
 And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns.

Not in vain the distance beacons. Forward, forward let us range,  
 Let the great world spin for ever down the ringing grooves of change.  
 Through the shadow of the globe we sweep into the younger day :  
 Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay.

LORD TENNYSON.

### 973. THE MILLER'S DAUGHTER

<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
---	--

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 unclasped at night.

LORD TENNYSON.

## 974. ULYSSES

It little profits that an idle king,  
 By this still hearth, among these barren crags,  
 Matched with an agèd wife, I mete and dole  
 Unequal laws unto a savage race  
 That hoard, and sleep, and feed, and know not me.  
 I cannot rest from travel: I will drink  
 Life to the lees: all times I have enjoyed  
 Greatly, have suffered greatly, both with those  
 That loved me, and alone; on shore and when  
 Through scudding drifts the rainy Hyades  
 Vexed the dim sea: I am become a name;  
 For always roaming with a hungry heart  
 Much have I seen and known; cities of men,  
 And manners, climates, councils, governments,  
 Myself not least, but honoured of them all;  
 And drunk delight of battle with my peers,  
 Far on the ringing plains of windy Troy.  
 I am a part of all that I have met;  
 Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough  
 Gleams that untravelled world, whose margin fades  
 For ever and for ever when I move.  
 How dull it is to pause, to make an end,  
 To rest unburnished, not to shine in use!  
 As though to breathe were life. Life piled on life  
 Were all too little, and of one to me  
 Little remains: but every hour is saved  
 From that eternal silence, something more,  
 A bringer of new things; and vile it were  
 For some three suns to store and hoard myself,  
 And this grey spirit yearning in desire  
 To follow knowledge, like a sinking star,  
 Beyond the utmost bound of human thought.  
 This is my son, mine own Telemachus,  
 To whom I leave the sceptre and the isle—  
 Well-loved of me, discerning to fulfil  
 This labour, by slow prudence to make mild  
 A rugged people, and through soft degrees  
 Subdue them to the useful and the good.  
 Most blameless is he, centred in the sphere  
 Of common duties, decent not to fail  
 In offices of tenderness, and pay  
 Meet adoration to my household gods,  
 When I am gone. He works his work, I mine.  
 There lies the port: the vessel puffs her sail:  
 There gloom the dark broad seas. My mariners,  
 Souls that have toiled, and wrought, and thought with me—  
 That ever with a frolic welcome took  
 The thunder and the sunshine, and opposed

Free hearts, free foreheads—you and I are old ;  
 Old age hath yet his honour and his toil ;  
 Death closes all : but something ere the end,  
 Some work of noble note, may yet be done,  
 Not unbecoming men that strove with Gods.  
 The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks :  
 The long day wanes : the slow moon climbs : the deep  
 Moans round with many voices. Come, my friends,  
 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.  
 Push off, and sitting well in order smite  
 The sounding furrows ; for my purpose holds  
 To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths  
 Of all the western stars, until I die.  
 It may be that the gulfs will wash us down :  
 It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,  
 And see the great Achilles, whom we knew.  
 Though much is taken, much abides ; and though  
 We are not now that strength which in old days  
 Moved earth and heaven ; that which we are, we are ;  
 One equal temper of heroic hearts,  
 Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will  
 To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

LORD TENNYSON.

975. FROM '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 splintered 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 through faith and prayer  
 A virgin heart in work and will. LORD TENNYSON.

## 976. NOW SLEEPS THE CRIMSON PETAL

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 fire-fly 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 (*The Princess*).

## 977. O SWALLOW, SWALLOW, FLYING, FLYING SOUTH

O SWALLOW, Swallow, flying, flying South,  
 Fly to her, and fall upon her gilded eaves,  
 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 (*The Princess*).

## 978. O THAT 'TWERE POSSIBLE

O THAT 'twere possible  
 After long grief and pain  
 To find the arms of my true love  
 Round me once again !

A shadow flits before me,

Not thou, but like to thee ;  
 Ah Christ, that it were possible  
 For one short hour to see  
 The souls we loved, that they  
 might tell us  
 What and where they be.

LORD TENNYSON (*Maud*).

## 979. THE LADY OF SHALOTT

## PART I

ON either side the river lie  
 Long fields of barley and of rye,  
 That clothe the wold and meet the sky ;  
 And through the field the road runs by  
 To many-towered Camelot ;  
 And up and down the people go,  
 Gazing where the lilies blow  
 Round an island there below,  
 The island of Shalott.

Willows whiten, aspens quiver,  
 Little breezes dusk and shiver  
 Through the wave that runs for ever  
 By the island in the river

Flowing down to Camelot.

Four grey walls, and four grey towers,  
 Overlook a space of flowers,  
 And the silent isle embowers  
 The Lady of Shalott.

By the margin, willow-veiled,  
 Slide the heavy barges trailed  
 By slow horses ; and unhailed  
 The shallop fitteth silken-sailed

Skimming down to Camelot :

But who hath seen her wave her hand ?  
 Or at the casement seen her stand ?  
 Or is she known in all the land,

The Lady of Shalott ?

Only reapers reaping early  
 In among the bearded barley,  
 Hear a song that echoes cheerly  
 From the river winding clearly,

Down to towered Camelot :

And by the moon the reaper weary,  
 Piling sheaves in uplands airy,  
 Listening, whispers ' 'Tis the fairy  
 Lady of Shalott.'

## PART II

There she weaves by night and day  
 A magic web with colours gay.  
 She has heard a whisper say,  
 A curse is on her if she stay  
     To look down to Camelot.  
 She knows not what the curse may be,  
 And so she weaveth steadily,  
 And little other care hath she,  
     The Lady of Shalott.  
 And moving through a mirror clear  
 That hangs before her all the year,  
 Shadows of the world appear.  
 There she sees the highway near  
     Winding down to Camelot :  
 There the river eddy whirls,  
 And there the surly village-churls,  
 And the red cloaks of market girls,  
     Pass onward from Shalott.  
 Sometimes a troop of damsels glad,  
 An abbot on an ambling pad,  
 Sometimes a curly shepherd-lad,  
 Or long-haired page in crimson clad,  
     Goes by to towered Camelot ;  
 And sometimes through the mirror blue  
 The knights come riding two and two :  
 She hath no loyal knight and true,  
     The Lady of Shalott.  
 But in her web she still delights  
 To weave the mirror's magic sights,  
 For often through the silent nights  
 A funeral, with plumes and lights,  
     And music, went to Camelot .  
 Or when the moon was overhead,  
 Came two young lovers lately wed ;  
 ' I am half sick of shadows,' said  
     The Lady of Shalott.

## PART III

A bow-shot from her bower-eaves,  
 He rode between the barley-sheaves,  
 The sun came dazzling through the leaves,  
 And flamed upon the brazen greaves  
     Of bold Sir Lancelot.  
 A red-cross knight for ever kneeled  
 To a lady in his shield,  
 That sparkled on the yellow field,  
     Beside remote Shalott.

The gemmy bridle glittered free,  
 Like to some branch of stars we see  
 Hung in the golden Galaxy.  
 The bridle-bells rang merrily  
     As he rode down to Camelot :  
 And from his blazoned baldric slung  
 A mighty silver bugle hung,  
 And as he rode his armour rung,  
     Beside remote Shalott.

All in the blue unclouded weather  
 Thick-jewelled shone the saddle-leather,  
 The helmet and the helmet-feather  
 Burned like one burning flame together,  
     As he rode down to Camelot.  
 As often through the purple night,  
 Below the starry clusters bright,  
 Some bearded meteor, trailing light,  
     Moves over still Shalott.

His broad clear brow in sunlight glowed ;  
 On burnished hooves his war-horse trode ;  
 From underneath his helmet flowed  
 His coal-black curls as on he rode,  
     As he rode down to Camelot.  
 From the bank and from the river  
 He flashed into the crystal mirror,  
 'Tirra lirra,' by the river  
     Sang Sir Lancelot.

She left the web, she left the loom,  
 She made three paces through the room,  
 She saw the water-lily bloom,  
 She saw the helmet and the plume,  
     She looked down to Camelot.  
 Out flew the web and floated wide ;  
 The mirror cracked from side to side ;  
 'The curse is come upon me,' cried  
     The Lady of Shalott.

## PART IV

In the stormy east-wind straining  
 The pale yellow woods were waning,  
 The broad stream in his banks complaining,  
 Heavily the low sky raining  
     Over towered Camelot ;  
 Down she came and found a boat  
 Beneath a willow left afloat,  
 And round about the prow she wrote  
     *The Lady of Shalott.*

And down the river's dim expanse—  
 Like some bold seer in a trance,  
 Seeing all his own mischance—  
 With a glassy countenance  
     Did she look to Camelot.  
 And at the closing of the day  
 She loosed the chain and down she lay;  
 The broad stream bore her far away,  
     The Lady of Shalott.

Lying, robed in snowy white—  
 That loosely flew to left and right—  
 The leaves upon her falling light—  
 Through the noises of the night  
     She floated down to Camelot:  
 And as the boat-head wound along  
 The willowy hills and fields among,  
 They heard her singing her last song,  
     The Lady of Shalott.

Heard a carol, mournful, holy,  
 Chanted loudly, chanted lowly,  
 Till her blood was frozen slowly,  
 And her eyes were darkened wholly,  
     Turned to towered Camelot;  
 For ere she reached upon the tide  
 The first house by the water-side,  
 Singing in her song she died,  
     The Lady of Shalott.

Under tower and balcony,  
 By garden-wall and gallery,  
 A gleaming shape she floated by,  
 Dead-pale between the houses high,  
     Silent into Camelot.  
 Out upon the wharfs they came,  
 Knight and burgher, lord and dame,  
 And round the prow they read her name,  
     *The Lady of Shalott.*

Who is this? and what is here?  
 And in the lighted palace near  
 Died the sound of royal cheer;  
 And they crossed themselves for fear,  
     All the knights at Camelot:  
 But Lancelot mused a little space;  
 He said, 'She has a lovely face;  
 God in His mercy lend her grace,  
     The Lady of Shalott.'

LORD TENNYSON.



## 980. THE FLOWER

ONCE in a golden hour  
 I cast to earth a seed.  
 Up there came a flower,  
 The people said, a weed.

To and fro they went  
 Through my garden-bower,  
 And muttering discontent  
 Cursed me and my flower.

Then it grew so tall  
 It wore a crown of light,  
 But thieves from o'er the wall  
 Stole the seed by night.

Sowed it far and wide  
 By every town and tower,  
 Till all the people cried,  
 'Splendid is the flower.'

Read my little fable:  
 He that runs may read.  
 Most can raise the flower now,  
 For all have got the seed.

LORD TENNYSON.

## 981. FROM 'IN MEMORIAM'

STRONG Son of God, immortal Love,  
 Whom we, that have not seen thy face  
 By faith, and faith alone, embrace,  
 Believing where we cannot prove ;

Thou seemest human and divine,  
 The highest, holiest manhood, thou :  
 Our wills are ours, we know not how ;  
 Our wills are ours, to make them thine.

Our little systems have their day ;  
 They have their day and cease to be :  
 They are but broken lights of thee,  
 And thou, O Lord, art more than they.

Let knowledge grow from more to more,  
 But more of reverence in us dwell ;  
 That mind and soul, according well,  
 May make one music as before,  
 But vaster. . . .

v

I sometimes hold it half a sin  
 To put in words the grief I feel ;  
 For words, like Nature, half reveal  
 And half conceal the Soul within.

But, for the unquiet heart and brain,  
 A use in measured language lies ;  
 The sad mechanic exercise,  
 Like dull narcotics, numbing pain.

## LIII

How many a father have I seen,  
 A sober man, among his boys,  
 Whose youth was full of foolish noise,  
 Who wears his manhood hale and green :

And dare we to this fancy give,  
 That had the wild oat not been sown,  
 The soil, left barren, scarce had grown  
 The grain by which a man may live ?

Or, if we held the doctrine sound  
 For life outliving heats of youth,  
 Yet who would preach it as a truth  
 To those that eddy round and round ?

Hold thou the good : define it well :  
 For fear divine Philosophy  
 Should push beyond her mark, and be  
 Procress to the Lords of Hell.

## LIV

Oh yet we trust that somehow good  
 Will be the final goal of ill,  
 To pangs of nature, sins of will,  
 Defects of doubt, and taints of blood ;

That nothing walks with aimless feet ;  
 That not one life shall be destroyed,  
 Or cast as rubbish to the void,  
 When God hath made the pile complete ;

That not a worm is cloven in vain ;  
 That not a moth with vain desire  
 Is shrivelled in a fruitless fire,  
 Or but subserves another's gain.

Behold, we know not anything ;  
 I can but trust that good shall fall  
 At last—far off—at last, to all,  
 And every winter change to spring.

So runs my dream : but what am I ?  
 An infant crying in the night :  
 An infant crying for the light :  
 And with no language but a cry.

## LV

I falter where I firmly trod,  
 And falling with my weight of cares  
 Upon the great world's altar-stairs  
 That slope through darkness up to God,

I stretch lame hands of faith, and grope,  
 And gather dust and chaff, and call  
 To what I feel is Lord of all,  
 And faintly trust the larger hope.

## CVI

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.

## 982. SWEET AND LOW

<p>SWEET and low, sweet and low,          Wind of the western sea,          Low, low, breathe and blow,          Wind of the western sea !          Over the rolling waters go,          Come from the dying moon, and          blow,          Blow him again to me ;          While my little one, while my          pretty one, sleeps.</p>	<p>Sleep and rest, sleep and rest,          Father will come to thee soon ;          Rest, rest, on mother's breast,          Father will come to thee soon ;          Father will come to his babe in          the nest,          Silver sails all out of the west          Under the silver moon :          Sleep, my little one, sleep, my          pretty one, sleep.</p>
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LORD TENNYSON (*The Princess*).

## 983. TEARS, IDLE TEARS

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-awakened 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 remembered kisses after death,  
 And sweet as those by hopless fancy feigned  
 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 (*The Princess*).

## 984. THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH

THE old order changeth, yielding place to new,  
 And God fulfils Himself in many ways,  
 Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.  
 Comfort thyself : what comfort is in me ?  
 I have lived my life, and that which I have done  
 May He within Himself make pure ! but thou,  
 If thou shouldst never see my face again,  
 Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer

Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice  
 Rise like a fountain for me night and day.  
 For what are men better than sheep or goats  
 That nourish a blind life within the brain,  
 If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer  
 Both for themselves and those who call them friend ?  
 For so the whole round earth is every way  
 Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.  
 But now farewell. I am going a long way  
 With these thou seest—if indeed I go  
 (For all my mind is clouded with a doubt)—  
 To the island-valley of Avilion ;  
 Where falls not hail, or rain, or any snow,  
 Nor ever wind blows loudly : but it lies  
 Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard-lawns  
 And bowery hollows crowned with summer sea,  
 Where I will heal me of my grievous wound.

LORD TENNYSON (*Morte d'Arthur*).

#### 985. THE SPLENDOUR FALLS ON CASTLE WALLS

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 (*The Princess*).

#### 986. WOMAN AND MAN

THE woman's cause is man's : they rise or sink  
 Together, dwarfed or godlike, bond or free.

For woman is not undeveloped man  
 But diverse : could we make her as the man,

Sweet Love were slain : his dearest bond is this,  
 Not like to like, but like in difference.  
 Yet in the long years liker must they grow ;  
 The man be more of woman, she of man ;  
 He gain in sweetness and in moral height,  
 Nor lose the wrestling thews that throw the world ;  
 She mental breadth, nor fail in childward care,  
 Nor lose the childlike in the larger mind ;  
 Till at the last she set herself to man,  
 Like perfect music unto noble words.

LORD TENNYSON (*The Princess*).

### 987. THERE LIES A VALE IN IDA

THERE lies a vale in Ida, lovelier  
 Than all the valleys of Ionian hills.  
 The swimming vapour slopes athwart the glen,  
 Puts forth an arm, and creeps from pine to pine,  
 And loiters, slowly drawn. On either hand  
 The lawns and meadow-ledges midway down  
 Hang rich in flowers, and far below them roars  
 The long brook falling through the cloven ravine  
 In cataract after cataract to the sea.  
 Behind the valley topmost Gargarus  
 Stands up and takes the morning : but in front  
 The gorges, opening wide apart, reveal  
 Troas and Ilion's columned citadel,  
 The crown of Troas.

Hither came at noon  
 Mournful Oenone, wandering forlorn  
 Of Paris, once her playmate on the hills.  
 Her cheek had lost the rose, and round her neck  
 Floated her hair or seemed to float in rest.  
 She, leaning on a fragment twined with vine,  
 Sang to the stillness, till the mountain-shade  
 Sloped downward to her seat from the upper cliff.

'O mother Ida, many-fountained Ida,  
 Dear mother Ida, hearken ere I die.  
 For now the noonday quiet holds the hill :  
 The grasshopper is silent in the grass :  
 The lizard, with his shadow on the stone,  
 Rests like a shadow, and the cicala sleeps.  
 The purple flowers droop : the golden bee  
 Is lily-cradled : I alone awake.  
 My eyes are full of tears, my heart of love,  
 My heart is breaking, and my eyes are dim,  
 And I am all awearied of my life.'

LORD TENNYSON (*Oenone*).

## 988. ALBERT THE GOOD

WE know him now : all narrow jealousies  
 Are silent ; and we see him as he moved,  
 How modest, kindly, all-accomplished, wise,  
 With what sublime repression of himself,  
 And in what limits, and how tenderly ;  
 Not swaying to this faction or to that ;  
 Not making his high place the lawless perch  
 Of winged ambitions, nor a vantage-ground  
 For pleasure ; but through all this tract of years  
 Wearing the white flower of a blameless life,  
 Before a thousand peering littlenesses,  
 In that fierce light which beats upon a throne,  
 And blackens every blot.

LORD TENNYSON (Dedication to the *Idylls of the King*).

## 989. WHAT DOES LITTLE BIRDIE SAY

WHAT does little birdie say  
 In her nest at peep of day ?  
 Let me fly, says little birdie,  
 Mother, let me fly away.  
 Birdie, rest a little longer,  
 Till the little wings are stronger.  
 So she rests a little longer,  
 Then she flies away.

What does little baby say,  
 In her bed at peep of day ?  
 Baby says, like little birdie,  
 Let me rise and fly away.  
 Baby, sleep a little longer,  
 Till the little limbs are stronger.  
 If she sleeps a little longer,  
 Baby too shall fly away.

LORD TENNYSON (*Sea-Dreams*).

## 990. AT THE CHURCH GATE

ALTHOUGH I enter not,  
 Yet round about the spot  
 Oft-times I hover ;  
 And near the sacred gate,  
 With longing eyes I wait,  
 Expectant of her.  
 The Minster bell tolls out  
 Above the city's rout  
 And noise and humming :  
 They've hushed the Minster  
 bell :  
 The organ 'gins to swell :  
 She's coming, she's coming !

My lady comes at last,  
 Timid, and stepping fast,  
 And hastening hither,  
 With modest eyes downcast :  
 She comes — she's here — she's  
 past—  
 May Heaven go with her !  
 Kneel, undisturbed, fair Saint !  
 Pour out your praise or plaint  
 Meekly and duly ;  
 I will not enter there,  
 To sully your pure prayer  
 With thoughts unruly.

But suffer me to pace  
 Round the forbidden place,  
 Linger a minute,  
 Like outcast spirits who wait  
 And see through heaven's gate  
 Angels within it.

W. M. THACKERAY.

## 991. AD MINISTRAM

DEAR Lucy, you know what my wish is,—

I hate all your Frenchified fuss :  
Your silly entrées and made dishes  
Were never intended for us.  
No footman in lace and in ruffles  
Need dangle behind my arm-chair ;  
And never mind seeking for truffles,  
Although they be ever so rare.

But a plain leg of mutton, my Lucy,  
I prithee get ready at three :  
Have it smoking, and tender and juicy,  
And what better meat can there be ?  
And when it has feasted the master,  
'Twill amply suffice for the maid ;  
Meanwhile I will smoke my canaster,  
And tipple my ale in the shade.

W. M. THACKERAY.

## 992. THE AGE OF WISDOM

Ho, pretty page, with the dimpled chin,  
That never has known the barber's shear,  
All your wish is woman to win,  
This is the way that boys begin,—  
Wait till you come to Forty Year.

Curly gold locks cover foolish brains,  
Billing and cooing is all your cheer ;  
Sighing and singing of midnight strains,  
Under Bonnybell's window panes,—  
Wait till you come to Forty Year.

Forty times over let Michaelmas pass,  
Grizzling hair the brain doth clear—  
Then you know a boy is an ass,  
Then you know the worth of a lass,  
Once you have come to Forty Year.

Pledge me round, I bid ye declare,  
All good fellows whose beards are grey,  
Did not the fairest of the fair  
Common grow and wearisome ere  
Ever a month was passed away ?

The reddest lips that ever have kissed,  
The brightest eyes that ever have shone,  
May pray and whisper, and we not list,  
Or look away, and never be missed,  
Ere yet ever a month is gone.



Gillian's dead, God rest her bier,  
 How I loved her twenty years syne !  
 Marian's married, but I sit here  
 Alone and merry at Forty Year,  
 Dipping my nose in the Gascon wine.

W. M. THACKERAY.

993. 'THE NOBLE ART OF MURDERING'

LAST year, my love, it was my hap  
 Behind a grenadier to be,  
 And, but he wore a hairy cap,  
 No taller man, methinks, than me.

Prince Albert and the Queen, God wot  
 (Be blessings on the glorious pair !),  
 Before us passed. I saw them not—  
 I only saw a cap of hair.

Your orthodox historian puts  
 In foremost rank the soldier thus,  
 The red-coat bully in his boots,  
 That hides the march of men from us.

He puts him there in foremost rank,  
 You wonder at his cap of hair :  
 You hear his sabre's cursèd clank,  
 His spurs are jingling everywhere.

Go to ! I hate him and his trade :  
 Who bade us so to cringe and bend,  
 And all God's peaceful people made  
 To such as him subservient ?

Tell me what find we to admire  
 In epaulets and scarlet coats,  
 In men, because they load and fire,  
 And know the art of cutting throats ?

W. M. THACKERAY (*The Chronicle of the Drum*).

994. VANITAS VANITATUM

O VANITY of Vanities !  
 How wayward the decrees of Fate are ;  
 How very weak the very wise,  
 How very small the very great are !

Though thrice a thousand years are past  
 Since David's son, the sad and splendid,  
 The weary King Ecclesiast,  
 Upon his awful tablets penned it,—

Methinks the text is never stale,  
 And life is every day renewing  
 Fresh comments on the old, old tale  
 Of Folly, Fortune, Glory, Ruin.

Hark to the Preacher, preaching still !  
 He lifts his voice and cries his sermon,  
 Here at St. Peter's of Cornhill,  
 As yonder on the Mount of Hermon :

For you and me to heart to take  
 (O dear beloved brother readers)  
 To-day, as when the good King spake  
 Beneath the solemn Syrian cedars.

W. M. THACKERAY.

### 995. THE END OF THE PLAY

THE play is done ; the curtain drops,  
 Slow falling, to the prompter's bell :  
 A moment yet the actor stops,  
 And looks around, to say farewell.  
 It is an irksome word and task ;  
 And, when he's laughed and said his say,  
 He shows, as he removes the mask,  
 A face that's anything but gay.

One word, ere yet the evening ends,  
 Let's close it with a parting rhyme,  
 And pledge a hand to all young friends,  
 As fits the merry Christmas-time.  
 On life's wide scene you, too, have parts,  
 That Fate ere long shall bid you play ;  
 Good night ! with honest gentle hearts  
 A kindly greeting go away !

• • • • •  
 Come wealth or want, come good or ill.  
 Let young and old accept their part,  
 And bow before the Awful Will,  
 And bear it with an honest heart,  
 Who misses, or who wins the prize.  
 Go, lose or conquer as you can ;  
 But if you fail, or if you rise,  
 Be each, pray God, a gentleman.

A gentleman, or old or young !  
 (Bear kindly with my humble lays) ;  
 The sacred chorus first was sung  
 Upon the first of Christmas Days :

The shepherds heard it overhead—  
 The joyful angels raised it then :  
 Glory to Heaven on high, it said,  
 And peace on earth to gentle men.

My song, save this, is little worth ;  
 I lay the weary pen aside,  
 And wish you health, and love, and mirth,  
 As fits the solemn Christmas-tide.  
 As fits the holy Christmas birth,  
 Be this, good friends, our carol still—  
 Be peace on earth, be peace on earth,  
 To men of gentle will. W. M. THACKERAY.

### 996. THE KING OF BRENTFORD

THERE was a King in Brentford,—of whom no legends tell,  
 But who, without his glory,—could eat and sleep right well.  
 His Polly's cotton nightcap,—it was his crown of state,  
 He slept of evenings early,—and rose of mornings late.

All in a fine mud palace,—each day he took four meals,  
 And for a guard of honour,—a dog ran at his heels.  
 Sometimes to view his kingdoms,—rode forth this monarch good.  
 And then a prancing jackass—he royally bestrode.

There were no costly habits—with which this King was cursed,  
 Except (and where's the harm on't ?)—a somewhat lively thirst ;  
 But people must pay taxes,—and Kings must have their sport ;  
 So out of every gallon—his Grace he took a quart.

He pleased the ladies round him,—with manners soft and bland ;  
 With reason good, they named him,—the father of his land.  
 Each year his mighty armies—marched forth in gallant show ;  
 Their enemies were targets,—their bullets they were tow.

He vexed no quiet neighbour,—no useless conquest made,  
 But by the laws of pleasure,—his peaceful realm he swayed.  
 And in the years he reignèd,—through all this country wide,  
 There was no cause for weeping,—save when the good man died.

The faithful men of Brentford,—do still their King deplore,  
 His portrait yet is swinging,—beside an alehouse door.  
 And topers, tender-hearted,—regard his honest phiz,  
 And envy times departed,—that knew a reign like his.

W. M. THACKERAY.

## 997. BOUILLABAISSÉ

THIS Bouillabaisse a noble dish is—

A sort of soup or broth, or brew,  
Or hotchpotch of all sorts of fishes,  
That Greenwich never could outdo ;  
Green herbs, red peppers, mussels, saffern,  
Soles, onions, garlic, roach, and dace ;  
All these you eat at Terré's tavern,  
In that one dish of Bouillabaisse.

Indeed, a rich and savoury stew 'tis ;  
And true philosophers, methinks,  
Who love all sorts of natural beauties,  
Should love good victuals and good drinks.  
And Cordelier and Benedictine  
Might gladly, sure, his lot embrace,  
Nor find a fast-day too afflicting  
Which served him up a Bouillabaisse.

W. M. THACKERAY (*The Ballad of Bouillabaisse*).

## 998. THE SORROWS OF WERTHER

WERTHER had a love for Charlotte  
Such as words could never utter ;  
Would you know how first he met her ?  
She was cutting bread-and-butter.

Charlotte was a married lady,  
And a moral man was Werther,  
And, for all the wealth of Indies,  
Would do nothing for to hurt her.

So he sighed and pined and ogled,  
And his passion boiled and bubbled,  
Till he blew his silly brains out,  
And no more was by it troubled.

Charlotte, having seen his body  
Borne before her on a shutter,  
Like a well-conducted person,  
Went on cutting bread-and-butter.

W. M. THACKERAY.

## 999. A PLEASING LAND OF DROWSYHED

A PLEASING land of drowsyhed it was :  
Of dreams that wave before the half-shut eye ;  
And of gay castles in the clouds that pass,  
For ever flushing round a summer sky :  
There eke the soft delights that witchingly  
Instil a wanton sweetness through the breast,  
And the calm pleasures always hovered nigh ;  
But whate'er smacked of noyance, or unrest,  
Was far far off expelled from this delicious nest.

J. THOMSON (*The Castle of Indolence*).

## 1000. THE SNOW-STORM

THE keener tempests come : and, fuming dun  
 From all the livid east or piercing north,  
 Thick clouds ascend, in whose capacious womb  
 A vapoury deluge lies, to snow congealed.  
 Heavy they roll their fleecy world along,  
 And the sky saddens with the gathered storm.  
 Through the hushed air the whitening shower descends,  
 At first thin-wavering ; till at last the flakes  
 Fall broad and wide and fast, dimming the day  
 With a continual flow. The cherished fields  
 Put on their winter-robe of purest white.  
 'Tis brightness all ; save where the new snow melts  
 Along the mazy current. Low the woods  
 Bow their hoar head ; and, ere the languid sun  
 Faint from the west emits his evening ray,  
 Earth's universal face, deep-hid and chill,  
 Is one wild dazzling waste, that buries wide  
 The works of man. Drooping, the labourer-ox  
 Stands covered o'er with snow, and then demands  
 The fruit of all his toil. The fowls of heaven,  
 Tamed by the cruel season, crowd around  
 The winnowing store, and claim the little boon  
 Which Providence assigns them. One alone,  
 The redbreast, sacred to the household gods,  
 Wisely regardful of the embroiling sky,  
 In joyless fields and thorny thickets leaves  
 His shivering mates, and pays to trusted man  
 His annual visit. Half afraid, he first  
 Against the window beats ; then brisk alights  
 On the warm hearth ; then, hopping o'er the floor,  
 Eyes all the smiling family askance,  
 And pecks, and starts, and wonders where he is—  
 Till, more familiar grown, the table-crums  
 Attract his slender feet. J. THOMSON (*The Seasons*).

## 1001. RULE BRITANNIA

WHEN Britain first, at Heaven's command,  
 Arose from out the azure main,  
 This was the charter of the land,  
 And guardian angels sung this strain—  
 'Rule, Britannia, rule the waves ;  
 Britons never will be slaves.'

The nations, not so blest as thee,  
 Must in their turns 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,  
 But 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 crowned,  
 And many hearts to guard the fair.  
 ' Rule, Britannia, rule the waves ;  
 Britons never will be slaves.' J. THOMSON.

## 1002. AS WE RUSH IN THE TRAIN

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 in 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.

## 1003. FROM 'ON NEWS'

WHAT sacred instinct did inspire  
 My soul in childhood with a hope so strong ?  
 What secret force moved my desire  
 To expect my joys beyond the seas, so young ?  
 Felicity I knew  
 Was out of view,  
 And being here alone,  
 I saw that happiness was gone  
 From me ! For this  
 I thirsted absent bliss,  
 And thought that sure beyond the seas,  
 Or else in something near at hand  
 I knew not yet (since naught did please  
 I knew) my bliss did stand.

But little did the infant dream  
That all the treasures of the world were by :  
And that himself was so the cream  
And crown of all which round about did lie.

Yet thus it was : The gem,  
The diadem,  
The ring enclosing all  
That stood upon this earthly ball ;  
The Heavenly Eye  
Much wider than the sky,  
Wherein they all included were ;  
The glorious Soul, that was the King  
Made to possess them, did appear  
A small and little thing !

T. TRAHERNE.

## 1004. FROM 'THE KINGDOM OF GOD'

I SAY to thee, do thou repeat  
To the first man thou mayest meet  
In lane, highway, or open street—  
That he and we and all men move  
Under a canopy of love,  
As broad as the blue sky above ;  
That doubt and trouble, fear and pain  
And anguish, all are shadows vain,  
That death itself shall not remain ;  
That weary deserts we may tread,  
A dreary labyrinth may thread,  
Through dark ways underground be led ;  
Yet, if we will one Guide obey,  
The dreariest path, the darkest way  
Shall issue out in heavenly day ;

And we, on divers shores now cast,  
Shall meet, our perilous voyage past,  
All in our Father's house at last. R. C. TRENCH.

## 1005. SOME MURMUR, WHEN THEIR SKY IS CLEAR

SOME murmur, when their sky is clear  
And wholly bright to view,  
If one small speck of dark appear  
In their great heaven of blue.  
And some with thankful love are filled  
If but one streak of light,  
One ray of God's good mercy gild  
The darkness of their night.

In palaces are hearts that ask,  
 In discontent and pride,  
 Why life is such a dreary task,  
 And all good things denied.  
 And hearts in poorest huts admire  
 How love has in their aid  
 (Love that not ever seems to tire)  
 Such rich provision made. R. C. TRENCH.

## 1006. THE LATTICE AT SUNRISE

As on my bed at dawn I mused and prayed,  
 I saw my lattice pranked upon the wall,  
 The flaunting leaves and fitting birds withal—  
 A sunny phantom interlaced with shade ;  
 ' Thanks be to heaven,' in happy mood I said,  
 ' What sweeter aid my matins could befall  
 Than this fair glory from the East bath made ?  
 What holy sleights hath God, the Lord of all,  
 To bid us feel and see ! we are not free  
 To say we see not, for the glory comes  
 Nightly and daily, like the flowing sea ;  
 His lustre pierceth through the midnight glooms ;  
 And, at prime hour, behold ! He follows me  
 With golden shadows to my secret rooms !'  
 C. TENNYSON TURNER.

## 1007. THE BUOY-BELL

How like the leper, with his own sad cry  
 Enforcing his own solitude, it tolls !  
 That lonely bell set in the rushing shoals,  
 To warn us from the place of jeopardy !  
 O friend of man ! sore-vexed by ocean's power,  
 The changing tides wash o'er thee day by day.  
 Thy trembling mouth is filled with bitter spray,  
 Yet still thou ringest on from hour to hour ;  
 High is thy mission, though thy lot is wild—  
 To be in danger's realm a guardian sound ;  
 In seamen's dreams a pleasant part to bear,  
 And earn their blessing as the year goes round ;  
 And strike the key-note of each grateful prayer,  
 Breathed in their distant homes by wife or child !  
 C. TENNYSON TURNER.

## 1008. THE OCEAN

THE ocean at the bidding of the moon  
 For ever changes with his restless tide ;  
 Flung shoreward now, to be regathered soon  
 With kingly pauses of reluctant pride



And semblance of return :—Anon from home  
 He issues forth anew, high ridged and free—  
 The gentlest murmur of his seething foam  
 Like armies whispering where great echoes be !  
 O leave me here upon this beach to rove,  
 Mute listener to that sound so grand and lone—  
 A glorious sound, deep drawn and strongly thrown,  
 And reaching those on mountain heights above,  
 To British ears (as who shall scorn to own ?)  
 A tutelard fond voice, a saviour-tone of Love !

C. TENNYSON TURNER.

### 1009. TO HIS BOOKS

By sucking you the wise, like bees, do grow  
 Healing and rich, though this they do most slow,  
 Because most choicely ; for as great a store  
 Have we of books as bees of herbs, or more ;  
 And the great task to try, then know, the good,  
 To discern weeds, and judge of wholesome food,  
 Is a rare scant performance. For man dies  
 Oft ere 'tis done, while the bee feeds and flies.  
 But you were all choice flowers ; all set and dressed  
 By old sage florists, who well knew the best.

H. VAUGHAN.

### 1010. NIGHT

DEAR Night ! this world's defeat ;  
 The stop to busy fools ; care's check and curb ;  
 The day of spirits ; my soul's calm retreat  
     Which none disturb !  
 Christ's progress, and His prayer-time ;  
 The hours to which high Heaven doth chime.

God's silent, searching flight ;  
 When my Lord's head is filled with dew, and all  
 His locks are wet with the clear drops of night ;  
     His still, soft call ;  
 His knocking time ; the soul's dumb watch,  
 When spirits their fair kindred catch.

. . . . .

There is in God—some say—  
 A deep, but dazzling darkness ; as men here  
 Say it is late and dusky, because they  
     See not all clear.

O for that Night ! where I in Him  
 Might live invisible and dim !

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1011. 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 walked 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 might once more reach that plain,  
 Where first I left my glorious train ;  
 From whence the enlightened 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.

## 1012. CHILDHOOD

I CANNOT reach it ; and my striving eye  
 Dazzles at it, as at eternity.  
 Were now that chronicle alive,  
 Those white designs which children drive,  
 And the thoughts of each harmless hour,  
 With their content, too, in my power,  
 Quickly would I make my path even,  
 And by mere playing go to heaven.

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1013. I WALKED THE OTHER DAY, TO SPEND MY HOUR

I WALKED the other day—to spend my hour—  
 Into a field,  
 Where I sometimes had seen the soil to yield  
 A gallant flower,  
 But Winter now had ruffled all the bower,  
 And curious store  
 I knew there heretofore.

Then taking up what I could nearest spy,  
 I digged about  
 That place where I had seen him to grow out ;  
 And by and by  
 I saw the warm recluse alone to lie,  
 Where fresh and green  
 He lived of us unseen.

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1014. A SONG TO AMORET

IF I were dead, and, in my place,  
 Some fresher youth designed  
 To warm thee, with new fires ;  
 and grace

Those arms I left behind :

Were he as faithful as the Sun,  
 That's wedded to the Sphere ;  
 His blood as chaste and temperate  
 run,

As April's mildest tear ;

Or were he rich ; and, with his heap  
 And spacious share of earth,  
 Could make divine affection cheap,  
 And court his golden birth ;

For all these arts, I'd not believe  
 (No! though he should be thine!),  
 The mighty Amorist could give  
 So rich a heart as mine !

Fortune and beauty thou might'st  
 find,

And greater men than I ;  
 But my true resolvèd mind  
 They never shall come nigh.

For I not for an hour did love,  
 Or for a day desire,  
 But with my soul had from above  
 This endless holy fire.

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1015. PEACE

MY soul, there is a country  
 Far beyond the stars,  
 Where stands a wingèd sentry,  
 All skilful in the wars.

There, above noise and danger,  
 Sweet Peace sits, crowned with  
 smiles,

And One, born in a manger,  
 Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious friend,  
 And (O my soul, awake !)  
 Did in pure love descend  
 To die here, for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither ;  
 There grows the flower of  
 Peace,

The Rose that cannot wither,  
 Thy fortress, and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges ;

For none can thee secure,

But One who never changes,

Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1016. DULL, WRETCHED WORMS

NINE months Thy hands are fashioning us,  
 And many years—alas !  
 Ere we can lisp, or aught discuss  
 Concerning Thee, must pass :  
 Yet have I known Thy slightest things,  
 A feather, or a shell,  
 A stick, or rod, which some chance brings,  
 The best of us excel.  
 Dull, wretched worms ! that would not keep  
 Within our first fair bed,  
 But out of Paradise must creep  
 For every foot to tread.

H. VAUGHAN.

## 1017. TIMBER

SURE thou didst flourish once ! and many springs,  
 Many bright mornings, much dew, many showers,  
 Passed o'er thy head ; many light hearts and wings,  
 Which now are dead, lodged in thy living bowers.  
 And still a new succession sings and flies ;  
 Fresh groves grow up, and their green branches shoot  
 Towards the old and still enduring skies,  
 While the low violet thrives at their root. H. VAUGHAN.

## 1018. BEYOND THE VEIL

THEY are all gone into the world of light,  
 And I alone sit lingering here ;  
 Their very memory is fair and bright,  
 And my sad thoughts doth clear.  
 It glows and glitters in my cloudy breast,  
 Like stars upon some gloomy grove,  
 Or those faint beams in which this hill is dressed,  
 After the sun's remove.  
 I see them walking in an air of glory,  
 Whose light doth trample on my days ;  
 My days, which are at best but dull and hoary,  
 Mere glimmerings and decays.  
 O holy Hope, and high Humility,  
 High as the heavens above !  
 These are your walks, and you have showed them me,  
 To kindle my cold love.  
 Dear, beauteous Death, the jewel of the just,  
 Shining nowhere but in the dark,  
 What mysteries do lie beyond thy dust,  
 Could Man outlook that mark !

He that hath found some fledged bird's nest, may know  
 At first sight, if the bird be flown ;  
 But what fair well or grove he sings in now,  
     That is to him unknown.

And yet, as angels in some brighter dreams  
 Call to the soul when man doth sleep,  
 So some strange thoughts transcend our wonted themes,  
     And into glory peep.

If a star were confined into a tomb,  
 Her captive flames must needs burn there ;  
 But when the hand that locked her up, gives room,  
     She'll shine through all the sphere.

O Father of Eternal Life, and all  
 Created glories under Thee !  
 Resume Thy spirit from this world of thrall  
     Into true liberty.

Either disperse these mists, which blot and fill  
 My perspective still, as they pass ;  
 Or else remove me hence unto that hill  
     Where I shall need no glass. H. VAUGHAN.

## 1019. MAN

WEIGHING the steadfastness and state  
 Of some mean things which here below reside,  
 Where birds, like watchful clocks, the noiseless date  
 And intercourse of times divide,  
 Where bees at night get home and hive, and flowers,  
     Early as well as late,  
 Rise with the sun, and set in the same bowers ;

I would, said I, my God would give  
 The staidness of these things to man ! for these  
 To His divine appointments ever cleave,  
 And no new business breaks their peace ;  
 The birds nor sow nor reap, yet sup and dine,  
     The flowers without clothes live,  
 Yet Solomon was never dressed so fine.

Man hath still either toys, or care ;  
 He hath no root, nor to one place is tied,  
 But ever restless and irregular  
 About this earth doth run and ride ;  
 He knows he hath a home, but scarce knows where ;  
     He says it is so far,  
 That he hath quite forgot how to go there.

He knocks at all doors, strays and roams ;  
 Nay, hath not so much wit as some stones have,  
 Which in the darkest nights point to their homes  
 By some hid sense their Maker gave ;  
 Man is the shuttle, to whose winding quest,  
 And passage through these looms  
 God ordered motion, but ordained no rest.

H. VAUGHAN.

### 1020. ON A CONTENTED MIND

WHEN all is done and said,  
 In the end thus shall you  
 find,  
 He most of all doth bathe in  
 bliss  
 That hath a quiet mind :  
 And, clear from worldly cares,  
 To deem can be content  
 The sweetest time in all his life  
 In thinking to be spent.

The body subject is  
 To fickle Fortune's power,  
 And to a million of mishaps  
 Is casual every hour :  
 And Death in time doth change  
 It to a clod of clay ;  
 When as the mind, which is divine  
 Runs never to decay.

Companion none is like  
 Unto the mind alone ;  
 For many have been harmed by  
 speech,  
 Through thinking, few or none.  
 Fear oftentimes retaineth words,  
 But makes not thought to cease ;  
 And he speaks best that hath the  
 skill  
 When for to hold his peace.

Our wealth leaves us at death ;  
 Our kinsmen at the grave ;  
 But virtues of the mind unto  
 The heavens with us we have.  
 Wherefore, for virtue's sake  
 I can be well content,  
 The sweetest time of all my life  
 To deem in thinking spent.  
 THOMAS, LORD VAUX.

### 1021. THE ROCK OF CASHEL

ROYAL and saintly Cashel ! I would gaze  
 Upon the wreck of thy departed powers  
 Not in the dewy light of matin hours,  
 Nor the meridian pomp of summer's blaze,  
 But at the close of dim autumnal days,  
 When the sun's parting glance, through slanting showers,  
 Sheds o'er thy rock-throned battlements and towers  
 Such awful gleams as brighten o'er Decay's  
 Prophetic cheek. At such a time, methinks,  
 There breathes from thy lone courts and voiceless aisles  
 A melancholy moral, such as sinks  
 On the lone traveller's heart, amid the piles  
 Of vast Persepolis on her mountain stand,  
 Or Thebes half buried in the desert sand.

SIR AUBREY DE VERE.

## 1022. THE RIGHT USE OF PRAYER

THEREFORE when thou wouldst pray, or dost thine alms,  
 Blow not a trump before thee: hypocrites  
 Do thus, vaingloriously; the common streets  
 Boast of their largess, echoing their psalms.  
 On such the laud of men, like unctuous balms,  
 Falls with sweet savour. Impious counterfeits!  
 Prating of heaven, for earth their bosom heats!  
 Grasping at weeds, they lose immortal palms!  
 God needs not iteration nor vain cries:  
 That man communion with his God might share  
 Below, Christ gave the ordinance of prayer:  
 Vague ambages, and witless ecstasies,  
 Avail not: ere a voice to prayer be given  
 The heart should rise on wings of love to heaven.

SIR AUBREY DE VERE.

## 1023. SORROW

COUNT each affliction, whether light or grave,  
 God's messenger sent down to thee; do thou  
 With courtesy receive him; rise and bow;  
 And, ere his shadow pass thy threshold, crave  
 Permission first his heavenly feet to lave;  
 Then lay before him all thou hast; allow  
 No cloud of passion to usurp thy brow,  
 Or mar thy hospitality; no wave  
 Of mortal tumult to obliterate  
 The soul's marmoreal calmness: Grief should be  
 Like joy, majestic, equable, sedate;  
 Confirming, cleansing, raising, making free;  
 Strong to consume small troubles; to commend  
 Great thoughts, grave thoughts, thoughts lasting to the end.

AUBREY DE VERE (THE YOUNGER).

## 1024. SONG

SING the old song, amid the sounds dispersing  
 That burden treasured in your hearts too long;  
 Sing it, with voice low-breathed, but never name her:  
 She will not hear you, in her turrets nursing  
 High thoughts, too high to mate with mortal song—  
 Bend o'er her, gentle Heaven, but do not claim her!  
 In twilight caves, and secret lonelinesses,  
 She shades the bloom of her unearthly days;  
 And the soft winds alone have power to woo her:  
 Far off we catch the dark gleam of her tresses;  
 And wild birds haunt the wood-walks where she strays,  
 Intelligible music warbling to her.

That Spirit charged to follow and defend her,—  
 He also, doubtless, suffers this love-pain ;  
 And she, perhaps, is sad, hearing his sighing :  
 And yet that face is not so sad as tender ;  
 Like some sweet singer's, when her sweetest strain  
 From the heaved heart is gradually dying !  
 AUBREY DE VERE (THE YOUNGER).

## 1025. IF WOMEN COULD BE FAIR AND YET NOT FOND

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 laugh 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 our sport 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 our wiles, ourselves we ease ;  
 And then we say when we their fancy try,  
 To play with fools, Oh what a fool was I.  
 E. VERE, EARL OF OXFORD.

## 1026. AN EPITAPH UPON THOMAS, LORD FAIRFAX

UNDER this stone does lie  
 One born for victory.  
  
 Fairfax, the valiant ! and the only he  
 Who e'er, for that alone, a conqueror would be.  
 Both sexes' virtues were in him combined :  
 He had the fierceness of the manliest mind,  
 And all the meekness too of womankind.  
 He never knew what envy was, or hate.  
 His soul was filled with worth and honesty,  
 And with another thing, quite out of date,  
 Called modesty.

. . . . .





Had Echo, with so sweet a grace,  
 Narcissus' loud complaints returned ;  
 Not for reflection of his face,  
 But of his voice, the boy had mourned.

E. WALLER.

1029. GO, LOVELY ROSE

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.

1030. THE ENGLISH AND THE SEA

OTHERS may use the ocean as their road,  
 Only the English make it their abode,  
 Whose ready sails with every wind can fly,  
 And make a covenant with the inconstant sky ;  
 Our oaks secure as if they there took root,  
 We tread on billows with a steady foot.

E. WALLER (*A War with Spain*).

1031. 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 dear :  
 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 riband bound,  
 Take all the rest the sun goes round.

E. WALLER.

## 1032. OLD AGE

THE seas are quiet when the winds give o'er ;  
 So calm are we when passions are no more ;  
 For then we know how vain it was to boast  
 Of fleeting things so certain to be lost.  
 Clouds of affection from our younger eyes  
 Conceal that emptiness which age describes.

The soul's dark cottage, battered and decayed,  
 Lets in new light through chinks that time hath made ;  
 Stronger by weakness, wiser men become  
 As they draw near to their eternal home :  
 Leaving the Old, both worlds at once they view  
 That stand upon the threshold of the New.

E. WALLER.

## 1033. TO MR. HENRY LAWES

WHO HAD NEWLY SET A SONG OF MINE IN THE YEAR 1635

VERSES make heroic virtue live ;  
 But you can life to verses give.  
 As when in open air we blow,  
 The breath, though strained, sounds flat and low ;  
 But if a trumpet takes the blast,  
 It lifts it high and makes it last ;  
 So in your airs our numbers dressed  
 Make a shrill sally from the breast  
 Of nymphs, who, singing what we penned,  
 Our passions to themselves commend ;  
 While love, victorious with thy art,  
 Governs at once their voice and heart.

E. WALLER.

## 1034. TO THE YOUNGER LADY LUCY SYDNEY

WHY came I so untimely forth  
 Into a world which, wanting thee,  
 Could entertain us with no worth,  
 Or shadow of felicity ?  
 That time should me so far remove  
 From that which I was born to love.

Yet, fairest Blossom ! do not slight  
 That eye which you may know so soon ;  
 The rosy morn resigns her light  
 And milder splendours to the noon :  
 If such thy dawning beauty's power  
 Who shall abide its noon-tide hour ?

Hope waits upon the flowery prime ;  
 And summer though it be less gay,  
 Yet is not looked on as a time  
 Of declination or decay ;  
 For with a full hand she doth bring  
 All that was promised by the spring. E. WALLER.

## 1035. RIVALS IN LOVE

<p>OF all the torments, all the cares,          With which our lives are cursed;          Of all the plagues a lover bears,          Sure, rivals are the worst !          By partners in each other kind,          Afflictions easier grow ;          In love alone we hate to find          Companions of our woe.</p>	<p>Sylvia, for all the pangs you see          Are labouring in my breast,          I beg not you would favour me,          Would you but slight the rest.          How great soe'er your rigours are          With them alone I'll cope :—          I can endure my own despair,          But not another's hope.          W. WALSH.</p>
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## 1036. TO HIS MISTRESS

## AGAINST MARRIAGE

YES, all the world must sure agree,  
 He who 's secured of having thee,  
 Will be entirely blest :  
 But 'twere in me too great a wrong,  
 To make one who has been so long  
 My queen, my slave at last.

Nor ought those things to be confined,  
 That were for public good designed :  
 Could we, in foolish pride,  
 Make the sun always with us stay,  
 'Twould burn our corn and grass away,  
 To starve the world beside.

Let not the thoughts of parting fright,  
 Two souls, which passion does unite ;  
 For while our love does last,  
 Neither will strive to go away ;  
 And why the devil should we stay,  
 When once that love is past ?

W. WALSH.

## 1037. THE SOLDIER WORN WITH WARS

THE soldier, worn with wars, delights in peace ;  
 The pilgrim, in his ease, when toils are past ;  
 The ship, to gain the port, when storms do cease ;  
 And I rejoice, from love discharged at last !  
 Whom while I served, peace, rest, and land I lost,  
 With grievous wars, with toils, with storms betost.

Sweet liberty now gives me leave to sing.  
 What world it was, where love the rule did bear !  
 How foolish chance, by lots, ruled every thing !  
 How error was mainsail ! each wave a tear !  
 The master, Love himself ! Deep sighs the wind !  
 Cares rowed with vows the ship *Unmerry Mind*.

False hope as helm oft turned the boat about.  
 Inconstant faith stood up for middle mast.  
 Despair the cable, twisted all with doubt,  
 Held griping grief, the pikèd anchor, fast ;  
 Beauty was all the rocks. But I, at last,  
 Am now twice free ; and all my love is past !  
 T. WATSON.

## 1038. FROM 'A CRADLE HYMN'

HUSH ! my dear, lie still and slumber,  
 Holy angels guard thy bed !  
 Heavenly blessings without number  
 Gently falling on thy head.

Sleep, my babe ; thy food and raiment,  
 House and home thy friends provide ;  
 All without thy care or payment,  
 All thy wants are well supplied.

How much better thou'rt attended  
 Than the Son of God could be,  
 When from heaven He descended,  
 And became a child like thee !

. . . . .

Lo, He slumbers in His manger,  
 Where the hornèd oxen fed ;  
 Peace, my darling, here 's no danger,  
 Here 's no ox anear thy bed !

'Twas to save thee, child, from dying,  
 Save my dear from burning flame,  
 Bitter groans and endless crying,  
 That thy blest Redeemer came.

Mayst thou live to know and fear Him,  
 Trust and love Him all thy days ;  
 Then go dwell for ever near Him,  
 See His face, and sing His praise ! I. WATTS.

## 1039. THE HARDY SOLDIER

TO THE RIGHT HON. JOHN, LORD CUTTS,  
AT THE SIEGE OF NAMUR

'OH, why is man so thoughtless grown?  
Why guilty souls in haste to die?  
Venturing the leap to the worlds unknown,  
Heedless, to arms and blood they fly.

'Are lives but worth a soldier's pay?  
Why will ye join such wide extremes,  
And stake immortal souls, in play  
At desperate chance, and bloody games?

'Valour's a nobler turn of thought,  
Whose pardoned guilt forbids her fears;  
Calmly she meets the deadly shot,  
Secure of life beyond the stars:

'But Frenzy dares eternal Fate;  
And, spurred with Honour's airy dreams,  
Flies to attack the infernal gate  
And force a passage to the flames.'

Thus, hovering o'er Namuria's plains,  
Sang heavenly Love, in Gabriel's form.  
Young Thraso left the moving strains,  
And vowed to pray before the storm.

Anon, the thundering trumpet calls.  
'Vows are but wind!' the hero cries,  
Then swears by Heaven, and scales the walls,  
Drops in the ditch, despairs, and dies. I. WATTS.

## 1040. TRUE GREATNESS

WERE I so tall to reach the pole  
Or grasp the ocean with my span,  
I must be measured by my soul:  
The mind's the standard of the man. I. WATTS.

## 1041. THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT

WHEN the fierce north wind with his airy forces  
Rears up the Baltic to a foaming fury;  
And the red lightning with a storm of hail comes  
Rushing amain down,  
How the poor sailors stand amazed and tremble!  
Whilst the hoarse thunder, like a bloody trumpet,  
Roars a loud onset to the gaping waters  
Quick to devour them.

Such shall the noise be, and the wild disorder  
 (If things eternal may be like these earthly),  
 Such the dire terror when the great Archangel  
     Shakes the creation ;

Tears the strong pillars of the vault of heaven,  
 Breaks up old marble, the repose of princes ;  
 See the graves open, and the bones arising,  
     Flames all around them.

Hark, the shrill outcries of the guilty wretches !  
 Lively bright horror, and amazing anguish,  
 Stare through their eye-lids, while the living worm lies  
     Gnawing within them.

Thoughts, like old vultures, prey upon their heart-strings,  
 And the smart twinges, when the eye beholds the  
 Lofty Judge frowning, and a flood of vengeance  
     Rolling before him.

Hopeless immortals ! how they scream and shiver,  
 While devils push them to the pit wide-yawning  
 Hideous and gloomy to receive them headlong  
     Down to the centre.

Stop here, my fancy (all away, ye horrid  
 Doleful ideas !) : come, arise to Jesus,  
 How he sits God-like, and the saints around him  
     Throned, yet adoring !

Oh, may I sit there when he comes triumphant,  
 Dooming the nations ! then ascend to glory,  
 While our hosannas all along the passage  
     Shout the Redeemer.

I. WATTS.

## 1042. ALL THE FLOWERS OF THE SPRING

ALL the flowers of the spring  
 Meet to perfume our burying ;  
 These have but their growing  
     prime,  
 And man does flourish but his  
     time.  
 Survey our progress from our birth:  
 We are set, we grow, we turn to  
     earth.  
 Courts adieu, and all delights,  
 All bewitching appetites !

Sweetest breath and clearest eye  
 Like perfumes go out and die ;  
 And consequently this is done  
 As shadows wait upon the  
     sun.  
 Vain the ambition of kings  
 Who seek by trophies and dead  
     things  
 To leave a living name behind,  
 And weave but nets to catch the  
     wind.

J. WEBSTER (*The Devil's Law Case*).

## 1043. CALL FOR THE ROBIN-REDBREAST

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 robbed) 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 (*The White Devil*).

## 1044. DIRGE

HARK ! now everything is still ;  
 This screech-owl, and the whistler shrill,  
 Call upon our dame aloud,  
 And bid her quickly don her shroud.  
 Much you had of land and rent ;  
 Your length in clay 's now competent.  
 A long war disturbed your mind ;  
 Here your perfect peace is signed.  
 Of what is 't fools make such vain keeping ?  
 Sin, their conception : their birth, weeping :  
 Their life, a general mist of error ;  
 Their death, a hideous storm of terror.  
 Strew your hair with powders sweet,  
 Don clean linen, bathe your feet :  
 And—the foul fiend more to check—  
 A crucifix let bless your neck.  
 'Tis now full tide 'tween night and day :  
 End your groan and come away.

J. WEBSTER (*The Duchess of Malfi*).

## 1045. O LET US HOWL SOME HEAVY NOTE

O, LET us howl some heavy note,  
 Some deadly doggèd howl,  
 Sounding, as from the threatening throat  
 Of beasts and fatal fowl !  
 As ravens, screech-owls, bulls, and bears,  
 We'll bell and bawl our parts,  
 Till irksome noise have cloyed your ears,  
 And corrosived your hearts.  
 At last, whenas our quire wants breath,  
 Our bodies being blessed,  
 We'll sing, like swans, will welcome death,  
 And die in love and rest.

J. WEBSTER (*The Duchess of Malfi*).



## 1046. LOVE IS A LAW

LOVE is a law, a discord of such force,  
 That 'twixt our sense and reason makes divorce ;  
 Love's a desire, that to obtain betime,  
 We lose an age of years plucked from our prime ;  
 Love is a thing to which we soon consent,  
 As soon refuse, but sooner far repent.

Then what must women be that are the cause  
 That love hath life ? that lovers feel such laws ?  
 They're like the winds upon Lepanthæ's shore  
 That still are changing : O, then love no more !  
 A woman's love is like that Syrian flower,  
 That buds, and spreads, and withers in an hour.

J. WEBSTER AND W. ROWLEY (*The Thracian Wonder*).

## 1047. WOMAN'S POWER

I AM a woman, and am proud of it.  
 We are content that man shall take the lead,  
 Knowing he ever will look back on us  
 With doting eye, not caring how he steps.  
 Walking thus blindly, we may guide him so  
 That he shall turn which way shall please us best :  
 So we can beckon him where'er we will,  
 And lead him ever round about his grave,  
 And in whene'er we list.—  
 All matters that are greater than ourselves  
 Do trace their secret graces to our hands.  
 For glory captains struggle in the fight,  
 And play against the bulwark of the foe  
 The o'erbrowing engines in the stubborn siege ;  
 But love doth brace the garland on his head,  
 Making proud victory sweeter than it is.  
 What warlike prince did doff his laurel yet  
 But he did cast it in some fair maid's lap,  
 Saying, ' My greatness I commit to thee,  
 Mistress of it, and me, and my proud heart ' ?

Nay, even high offices, renown and praise,  
 Greatness of name, honour of men's regard,  
 Power and state and sumptuous array,  
 Do pay a tribute to the lips of love,  
 Fetching their freshness and their darling grace  
 From woman's approbation,—waiting still  
 Close to her elbow till she please to smile  
 Upon the cause whereof the man is proud,  
 And say that it is well.

Our will is the strong rudder to our bark ;  
 Our wit, the sails ; beauty, the swelling tide ;  
 Caprice, the tackle, serving to all winds,—  
 Though light as nothing, yet it tells like truth ;  
 And constancy, the anchor that 's upheaved,  
 For ever falling and yet never struck.

C. J. WELLS (*Joseph and his Brethren*).

#### 1048. RACHEL

THE dim blue-lacèd veins on either brow,  
 Neath the transparent skin meandering,  
 That with the silvery-leavèd lily vied ;  
 Her full dark eye, whose brightness glistened through  
 The sable lashes soft as camel-hair ;  
 Her slanting head curved like the maiden moon  
 And hung with hair luxuriant as a vine  
 And blacker than a storm ; her rounded ear  
 Turned like a shell upon some golden shore ;  
 Her whispering foot that carried all her weight,  
 Nor left its little pressure on the sand ;  
 Her lips as drowsy poppies, soft and red,  
 Gathering a dew from her escaping breath ;  
 Her voice melodious, mellow, deep, and clear,  
 Lingering like sweet music in the ear ;  
 Her neck o'ersoftened like to unsunned curd ;  
 Her tapering fingers rounded to a point ;  
 The silken softness of her veinèd hand ;  
 Her dimpled knuckles answering to her chin ;  
 And teeth like honeycombs o' the wilderness.

C. J. WELLS (*Joseph and his Brethren*).

#### 1049. WHAT MAN HAD NOT RATHER BE POOR

WHAT man in his wits had not rather be poor,  
 Than for lucre his freedom to give,  
 Ever busy the means of his life to secure,  
 And so ever neglecting to live ?

Environed from morning to night in a crowd,  
 Not a moment unbent, or alone ;  
 Constrained to be abject, though never so proud,  
 And at every one's call but his own.

Still repining, and longing for quiet, each hour,  
 Yet studiously flying it still ;  
 With the means of enjoying his wish, in his power ;  
 But accursed with his wanting the will.

For a year must be past, or a day must be come,  
 Before he has leisure to rest ;  
 He must add to his store this or that pretty sum,  
 And then he will have time to be blessed.

But his gains more bewitching the more they increase,  
 Only swell the desire of his eye :  
 Such a wretch, let mine enemy live if he please,  
 Let not even mine enemy die. S. WESLEY.

## 1050. IN YOUTH IS PLEASURE

IN an arbour green asleep I lay,  
 The birds sang sweet in the middle of the day,  
 I dreamèd fast of mirth and play :

In youth is pleasure, in youth is pleasure.

Methought I walked still to and fro,  
 And from her company I could not go—  
 But when I waked it was not so :

In youth is pleasure, in youth is pleasure.

Therefore my heart is surely pyght  
 Of her alone to have a sight  
 Which is my joy and heart's delight :

In youth is pleasure, in youth is pleasure.

R. WEVER (*Lusty Juventus*).

## 1051. TO AN EARLY PRIMROSE

MILD offspring of a dark and sullen sire !  
 Whose modest form, so delicately fine,  
 Was nursed in whirling storms,  
 And cradled in the winds.

Thee, when young Spring first questioned Winter's way,  
 And dared the sturdy blusterer to the fight,

Thee on this bank he threw  
 To mark his victory.

In this low vale, the promise of the year,  
 Serene, thou openest to the nipping gale,  
 Unnoticed and alone,  
 Thy tender elegance.

So virtue blooms, brought forth amid the storms  
 Of chill adversity ; in some lone walk  
 Of life she rears her head,  
 Obscure and unobserved ;

While every bleaching breeze that on her blows,  
 Chastens her spotless purity of breast,  
 And hardens her to bear  
 Serene the ills of life.

H. KIRKE WHITE.

## 1052. TO NIGHT

MYSTERIOUS Night! when our first parent knew  
Thee from report divine, and heard thy name,  
Did he not tremble for this lovely frame,  
This glorious canopy of light and blue?  
Yet 'neath a curtain of translucent dew,  
Bathed in the rays of the great setting flame,  
Hesperus with the host of heaven came,  
And lo! Creation widened in man's view.

Who could have thought such darkness lay concealed  
Within thy beams, O sun! or who could find,  
Whilst fly and leaf and insect stood revealed,  
That to such countless orbs thou mad'st us blind!  
Why do we then shun death with anxious strife?  
If Light can thus deceive, wherefore not Life?

J. BLANCO WHITE.

## 1053. JE NE SAIS QUOI

YES, I'm in love, I feel it now,  
And Celia has undone me!  
And yet I'll swear I can't tell  
how  
The pleasing plague stole on  
me.

'Tis not her face that love creates,  
For there no graces revel;  
'Tis not her shape, for there the  
Fates  
Have rather been uncivil.

'Tis not her air, for, sure, in that  
There's nothing more than  
common;  
And all her sense is only chat,  
Like any other woman.

Her voice, her touch, might give  
the alarm,  
'Twas both, perhaps, or neither!  
In short, 'twas that provoking  
charm  
Of Celia all together.

W. WHITEHEAD.

## 1054. A SIGHT IN CAMP

A SIGHT in camp in the daybreak grey and dim,  
As from my tent I emerge so early, sleepless,  
As slow I walk in the cool fresh air, the path near by the hospital tent,  
Three forms I see on stretchers lying, brought out there, untended  
lying,  
Over each the blanket spread, ample brownish woollen blanket,  
Grey and heavy blanket, folding, covering all.  
Curious, I halt, and silent stand;  
Then with light fingers I from the face of the nearest, the first, just  
lift the blanket:

Who are you, elderly man so gaunt and grim, with well-greyed hair,  
and flesh all sunken about the eyes ?

Who are you, my dear comrade ?

Then to the second I step—And who are you, my child and darling ?

Who are you, sweet boy, with cheeks yet blooming ?

Then to the third—a face nor child, nor old, very calm, as of beautiful  
yellow-white ivory ;

Young man, I think I know you—I think this face of yours is the  
face of the Christ himself ;

Dead and divine, and brother of us all, and here again he lies.

WALT WHITMAN (*Drum-Taps*).

### 1055. BEAT! BEAT! DRUMS!

#### I

BEAT! beat! drums!—Blow! bugles! blow!

Through the windows—through doors—burst like a force of ruthless  
men,

Into the solemn church, and scatter the congregation ;

Into the school where the scholar is studying ;

Leave not the bridegroom quiet—no happiness must he have now  
with his bride ;

Nor the peaceful farmer any peace, ploughing his field or gathering  
his grain ;

So fierce you whirr and pound, you drums—so shrill you bugles blow.

#### II

Beat! beat! drums!—Blow! bugles! blow!

Over the traffic of cities—over the rumble of wheels in the streets:  
Are beds prepared for sleepers at night in the houses? No sleepers  
must sleep in those beds ;

No bargainers' bargains by day—no brokers or speculators—Would  
they continue ?

Would the talkers be talking? would the singer attempt to sing?

Would the lawyer rise in the court to state his case before the judge?

Then rattle quicker, heavier drums—you bugles wilder blow.

#### III

Beat! beat! drums!—Blow! bugles! blow!

Make no parley—stop for no expostulation ;

Mind not the timid—mind not the weeper or prayer ;

Mind not the old man beseeching the young man ;

Let not the child's voice be heard, nor the mother's entreaties ;

Make even the trestles to shake the dead, where they lie awaiting the  
hearses,

So strong you thump, O terrible drums—so loud you bugles blow.

WALT WHITMAN (*Drum-Taps*).

## 1056. DID YOU ASK DULCET RHYMES FROM ME

DID you ask dulcet rhymes from me ?  
 Did you find what I sang erewhile so hard to follow, to understand ?  
 Why I was not singing erewhile for you to follow, to understand—nor  
 am I now ;  
 —What to such as you, anyhow, such a poet as I ?—therefore leave  
 my works,  
 And go lull yourself with what you can understand ;  
 For I lull nobody,—and you will never understand me.

WALT WHITMAN (*Drum-Taps*).

## 1057. ANIMALS

I THINK I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and  
 self-contained ;  
 I stand and look at them long and long.  
 They do not sweat and whine about their condition ;  
 They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins ;  
 They do not make me sick discussing their duty to God ;  
 Not one is dissatisfied—not one is demented with the mania of owning  
 things ;  
 Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that lived thousands of  
 years ago ;  
 Not one is respectable or industrious over the whole earth.

WALT WHITMAN (*Song of Myself*).

## 1058. O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
 The ship has weathered 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 ribboned 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 anchored 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 (*Memories of President Lincoln*).

### 1059. SPIRIT WHOSE WORK IS DONE

SPIRIT whose work is done ! spirit of dreadful hours !  
 Ere, departing, fade from my eyes your forests of bayonets ;  
 Spirit of gloomiest fears and doubts, (yet onward ever unfaltering  
 pressing ;)   
 Spirit of many a solemn day, and many a savage scene ! Electric  
 spirit !  
 That with muttering voice, through the war now closed, like a tireless  
 phantom flitted,  
 Rousing the land with breath of flame, while you beat and beat the  
 drum ;  
 —Now, as the sound of the drum, hollow and harsh to the last, rever-  
 berates round me ;  
 As your ranks, your immortal ranks, return, return from the battles ;  
 While the muskets of the young men yet lean over their shoulders ;  
 While I look on the bayonets bristling over their shoulders ;  
 While those slanted bayonets, whole forests of them, appearing in the  
 distance, approach and pass on, returning homeward,  
 Moving with steady motion, swaying to and fro, to the right and left,  
 Evenly, lightly rising and falling, as the steps keep time ;  
 —Spirit of hours I knew, all hectic red one day, but pale as death  
 next day ;  
 Touch my mouth ere you depart—press my lips close !  
 Leave me your pulses of rage ! bequeath them to me ! fill me with  
 currents convulsive !  
 Let them scorch and blister out of my chants, when you are gone ;  
 Let them identify you to the future, in these songs.

WALT WHITMAN (*Drum-Taps*).

### 1060. WHEN LILACS LAST IN THE DOORYARD BLOOMED

WHEN lilacs last in the dooryard bloomed,  
 And the great star early drooped in the western sky in the night,  
 I mourned, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.

O ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,  
 Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,  
 And thought of him I love.

O powerful western fallen star!  
 O shades of night—O moody, tearful night!  
 O great star disappeared—O the black murk that hides the star!  
 O cruel hands that hold me powerless—O helpless soul of me!  
 O harsh surrounding cloud that will not free my soul.

In the dooryard fronting an old farm-house near the white-washed  
 palings,  
 Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with heart-shaped leaves of rich  
 green.  
 With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with the perfume strong  
 I love  
 With every leaf a miracle—and from this bush in the dooryard,  
 With its delicate-coloured blossoms and heart-shaped leaves of rich green,  
 A sprig with its flower I break.

. . . . .

Over the breast of the spring, the land, amid cities,  
 Amid lanes and through old woods, where lately the violets peeped  
 from the ground, spotting the grey debris,  
 Amid the grass in the fields each side of the lanes, passing the endless  
 grass,  
 Passing the yellow-speared wheat, every grain from its shroud in the  
 dark-brown fields uprising,  
 Passing the apple-tree blows of white and pink in the orchards,  
 Carrying a corpse to where it shall rest in the grave,  
 Night and day journeys a coffin.

Coffin that passes through lanes and streets,  
 Through day and night with the great cloud darkening the land,  
 With the pomp of the inlooped flags, with the cities draped in black,  
 With the show of the States themselves as of crape-veiled women  
 standing,  
 With processions long and winding and the flambeaus of the night,  
 With the countless torches lit, with the silent sea of faces and the  
 unbared heads,  
 With the waiting dépôt, the arriving coffin and the sombre faces,  
 With dirges through the night, with the thousand voices rising strong  
 and solemn,  
 With all the mournful voices of the dirges poured around the coffin,

The dim-lit churches and the shuddering organs—where amid these  
 you journey,  
 With the tolling tolling bells' perpetual clang,  
 Here, coffin that slowly passes,  
 I give you my sprig of lilac.



(Nor for you, for one alone,  
Blossoms and branches green to coffins all I bring,  
For fresh as the morning, thus would I chant a song for you, O sane  
and sacred death. . . .)

Come, lovely and soothing Death ;  
Undulate round the world ; serenely arriving, arriving,  
In the day, in the night, to all, to each ;  
Sooner, or later, delicate Death.

Praised be the fathomless Universe  
For life and joy, and for objects and knowledge curious ;  
And for love, sweet love. But praise ! O praise and praise,  
For the sure-enwinding arms of cool-enfolding Death.

Dark Mother, always gliding near, with soft feet,  
Have none chanted for thee a chant of fullest welcome ?  
Then I chant it for thee ; I glorify thee above all.  
I bring thee a song that when thou must indeed come, come un-  
falteringly.

Approach, encompassing Death—strong deliveress,  
When it is so, when thou hast taken them, I joyously sing the dead,  
Lost in the loving floating ocean of thee,  
Laved in the flood of thy bliss, O Death.

From me to thee glad serenades,  
Dances for thee I propose, saluting thee, adornments and feastings  
for thee,  
And the sights of the open landscape and the high-spread sky are  
fitting,  
And life and the fields, and the huge and thoughtful night.

The night in silence under many a star,  
The ocean shore and the husky whispering wave whose voice I know,  
And the soul turning to thee, O vast and well-veiled Death,  
And the body gratefully nestling close to thee.

Over the tree-tops I float thee a song,  
Over the rising and sinking waves, over the myriad fields and the  
prairies wide,  
Over the dense-packed cities all and the teeming wharves and ways,  
I float this carol with joy, with joy to thee, O Death.

WALT WHITMAN (*Memories of President Lincoln*).

## 1061. FROM 'THE MEETING'

I ASK no organ's soulless breath  
 To drone the themes of life and  
 death,  
 No altar candle-lit by day,  
 No ornate wordsman's rhetoric-  
 play,  
 No cool philosophy to teach  
 Its bland audacities of speech  
 To double-tasked idolaters  
 Themselves their gods and wor-  
 shippers,  
 No pulpit hammered by the fist  
 Of loud-asserting dogmatist,  
 Who borrows for the Hand of  
 love  
 The smoking thunderbolts of  
 Jove.

I know how well the fathers  
 taught,  
 What work the ancient schoolmen  
 wrought ;  
 I reverence old-time faith and men,  
 But God is near us now as then ;  
 His force of love is still unspent,  
 His hate of sin as imminent ;  
 And still the measure of our needs  
 Outgrows the cramping bounds of  
 creeds ;  
 The manna gathered yesterday  
 Already savours of decay ;  
 Doubts to the world's child-heart  
 unknown  
 Question us now from star and  
 stone.

J. G. WHITTIER.

## 1062. VESTA

O CHRIST of God ! whose life and  
 death  
 Our own have reconciled,  
 Most quietly, most tenderly  
 Take home Thy star-named  
 child !  
 Thy grace is in her patient eyes,  
 Thy words are on her tongue ;  
 The very silence round her seems  
 As if the angels sung.

Her smile is as a listening child's  
 Who hears its mother call ;  
 The lilies of Thy perfect peace  
 About her pillow fall.

She leans from out our clinging  
 arms  
 To rest herself in Thine ;  
 Alone to Thee, dear Lord, can  
 we  
 Our well-beloved resign !

Oh, less for her than for ourselves  
 We bow our heads and pray ;  
 Her setting star, like Bethlehem's,  
 To Thee shall point the way.

J. G. WHITTIER.

## 1063. FROM 'CHILD-SONGS'

STILL linger in our noon of time  
 And on our Saxon tongue  
 The echoes of the home-born hymns  
 The Aryan mothers sung.

And childhood had its litanies  
 In every age and clime ;  
 The earliest cradles of the race  
 Were rocked to poet's rhyme.

Nor sky, nor wave, nor tree, nor  
flower,

Nor green earth's virgin sod,  
So moved the singer's heart of old  
As these small ones of God.

The mystery of unfolding life  
Was more than dawning morn,  
Than opening flower or crescent  
moon  
The human soul new-born !

And still to childhood's sweet  
appeal

The heart of genius turns,  
And more than all the sages teach  
From lisping voices learns,—

The voices loved of him who sang,  
Where Tweed and Teviot glide,  
That sound to-day on all the  
winds  
That blow from Rydal-side,—

Heard in the Teuton's household songs,  
And folk-lore of the Finn,  
Where'er to holy Christmas hearths  
The Christ-child enters in !      J. G. WHITTIER.

#### 1064. COME, CHLOE, AND GIVE ME SWEET KISSES

COME, Chloe, and give me sweet kisses,  
For sweeter sure never girl gave ;  
But why, in the midst of my blisses,  
Do you ask me how many I'd have ?  
I'm not to be stinted in pleasure,  
Then, prithee, my charmer, be kind,  
For whilst I love thee above measure,  
To numbers I'll ne'er be confined.  
Count the bees that on Hybla are playing,  
Count the flowers that enamel its fields,  
Count the flocks that on Tempe are straying,  
Or the grain that rich Sicily yields,  
Go number the stars in the heaven,  
Count how many sands on the shore,  
When so many kisses you've given,  
I still shall be craving for more.  
To a heart full of love, let me hold thee,  
To a heart that, dear Chloe, is thine ;  
In my arms I'll for ever enfold thee,  
And twist round thy limbs like a vine.  
What joy can be greater than this is ?  
My life on thy lips shall be spent !  
But the wretch that can number his kisses,  
With few will be ever content.

SIR C. HANBURY WILLIAMS.

## 1065. BROADWAY

THE shadows lay along Broad-  
way,

'Twas near the twilight tide,  
And slowly there a lady fair  
Was walking in her pride.  
Alone walked she, but viewlessly  
Walked spirits at her side.

Peace charmed the street beneath  
her feet,  
And Honour charmed the  
air,  
And all astir looked kind on  
her,

And called her good as fair ;  
For all God ever gave to her  
She kept with chary care.

She kept with care her beauties rare  
From lovers warm and true,  
For her heart was cold to all but  
gold,

And the rich came not to woo :  
But honoured well are charms to  
sell,  
If priests the selling do.

Now walking there was one more  
fair

A slight girl, lily-pale ;  
And she had unseen company  
To make the spirit quail :  
'Twixt Want and Scorn she walked  
forlorn,  
And nothing could avail.

No mercy now can clear her brow  
For this world's peace to pray ;  
For, as love's wild prayer dissolved in air,  
Her woman's heart gave way !—  
But the sin forgiven by Christ in Heaven,  
By man is cursed alway. N. P. WILLIS.

## 1066. EPITAPH ON CHARLES II

HERE lies our Sovereign Lord the King,  
Whose word no man relies on,  
Who never said a foolish thing,  
Nor ever did a wise one.

J. WILMOT, EARL OF ROCHESTER.

## 1067. CONSTANCY

I CANNOT change, as others do,  
Though you unjustly scorn ;  
Since that poor swain that sighs for you,  
For you alone was born.  
No, Phillis, no ! your heart to move,  
A surer way I'll try,  
And to revenge my slighted love,  
Will still love on, will still love on, and die !

When killed with grief Amyntas lies,  
 And you to mind shall call  
 The sighs that now unpitied rise,  
 The tears that vainly fall :  
 That welcome hour, that ends this smart,  
 Will then begin your pain,  
 For such a faithful, tender heart  
 Can never break, can never break, in vain.

J. WILMOT, EARL OF ROCHESTER.

1068. MY LIGHT THOU ART

My light thou art, without thy glorious sight  
 My eyes are darkened with eternal night ;  
 My Love, thou art my way, my life, my light.

Thou art my way, I wander if thou fly ;  
 Thou art my light, if hid, how blind am I !  
 Thou art my life, if thou withdraw'st I die.

Thou art my life ; if thou but turn away,  
 My life's a thousand deaths. Thou art my way ;  
 Without thee, Love, I travel not, but stray.

J. WILMOT, EARL OF ROCHESTER.

1069. UPON HIS DRINKING IN A BOWL.

VULCAN, contrive me such a cup  
 As Nestor used of old ;  
 Show all thy skill to trim it up,  
 Damask it round with gold.

Make it so large that, filled with  
 sack  
 Up to the swelling brim,  
 Vast toasts on the delicious lake  
 Like ships at sea may swim.

Engrave not battle on his cheek :  
 With war I've nought to do.  
 I'm none of those that took  
 Maestrich,  
 Nor Yarmouth leaguer knew.

Let it no name of planets tell,  
 Fixed stars or constellations,  
 For I am no Sir Sidrophel,  
 Nor none of his relations.

But carve thereon a spreading  
 vine,  
 Then add two lovely boys ;  
 Their limbs in amorous folds en-  
 twine,  
 The type of future joys.

Cupid and Bacchus my saints are ;  
 May drink and love still reign !  
 With wine I wash away my cares  
 And then to love again.

J. WILMOT, EARL OF ROCHESTER.

## 1070. A SLEEPING CHILD

FAIR was that face as break of dawn,  
 When o'er its beauty sleep was drawn  
 Like a thin veil which half concealed  
 The light of soul and half revealed.  
 While thy hushed heart with visions wrought  
 Each trembling eyelash moved with thought,  
 And things we dream, but ne'er can speak,  
 Like clouds come floating o'er thy cheek—  
 Such summer clouds as travel light  
 When the soul's heaven lies calm and bright;—  
 Till thou awak'st,—then to thine eye  
 Thy whole heart leapt in ecstasy!  
 And lovely is that heart of thine,  
 Or sure those eyes could never shine  
 With such a wild, yet bashful glee,  
 Gay, half-o'ercome timidity.

J. WILSON ('CHRISTOPHER NORTH').

## 1071. AMARYLLIS I DID WOO

AMARYLLIS I did woo;  
 And I courted Phillis too;  
 Daphne for her love I chose;  
 Chloris, for that damask rose  
 In her cheek I held as dear;  
 Yea, a thousand liked, well near;  
 And, in love with all together,  
 Fearèd the enjoying either,  
 'Cause to be of one possessed,  
 Barred the hope of all the rest.

G. WITHER (*The Mistress of Philarete*).

## 1072. BEHOLD THE SUN THAT SEEMED BUT NOW

<p>BEHOLD the sun, that seemed but          now          Enthronèd overhead,          Beginning to decline below          The globe whereon we tread;          And he, whom yet we look upon          With comfort and delight,          Will quite depart from hence anon,          And leave us to the night.</p>	<p>Thus time, unheeded, steals away          The life which nature gave;          Thus are our bodies every day          Declining to the grave;          Thus from us all our pleasures fly          Whereon we set our heart;          And when the night of death draws          nigh          Thus will they all depart.</p>
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Lord! though the sun forsake our sight,  
 And mortal hopes are vain,  
 Let still thine everlasting light  
 Within our souls remain;  
 And in the nights of our distress  
 Vouchsafe those rays divine,  
 Which from the Sun of Righteousness  
 For ever brightly shine!

G. WITHER.

## 1073. I LOVED A LASS, A FAIR ONE

I LOVED a lass, a fair one,  
 As fair as e'er was seen;  
 She was indeed a rare one,  
 Another Sheba Queen!  
 But, fool as then I was,  
 I thought she loved me too:  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

Her hair like gold did glisten,  
 Each eye was like a star,  
 She did surpass her sister,  
 Which passed all others far;  
 She would me honey call,  
 She'd,—oh she'd kiss me too:  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

Many a merry meeting  
 My love and I have had;  
 She was my only sweeting,  
 She made my heart full glad;  
 The tears stood in her eyes  
 Like to the morning dew:  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

Her cheeks were like the cherry,  
 Her skin as white as snow;  
 When she was blithe and merry,  
 She angel-like did show;  
 Her waist exceeding small,  
 The fives did fit her shoe:  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

In summer time or winter  
 She had her heart's desire;  
 I still did scorn to stint her  
 From sugar, sack, or fire;  
 The world went round about,  
 No cares we ever knew:  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

As we walked home together  
 At midnight through the town,  
 To keep away the weather  
 O'er her I'd cast my gown.  
 No cold my love should feel,  
 Whate'er the heavens could do;  
 But now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

Like doves we should be billing,  
 And clip and kiss so fast;  
 Yet she would be unwilling  
 That I should kiss the last.  
 They're Judas-kisses now,  
 Since that they proved untrue;  
 For now, alas! she's left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

To maidens' vows and swearing  
 Henceforth no credit give  
 You may give them the hearing  
 But never them believe;  
 They are as false as fair,  
 Unconstant, frail, untrue:  
 For mine, alas! hath left me,  
*Falero, lero, loo.*

G. WITHER.

## 1074. THE FLOWER OF FLOWERS

LET who list, for me, advance  
 The admirèd flowers of France,  
 Let who will praise and behold  
 The reservèd marigold ;  
 Let the sweet-breathed violet now  
 Unto whom she pleaseth bow ;  
 And the fairest lily spread  
 Where she will her golden head ;  
 I have such a flower to wear  
 That for those I do not care.

. . . . .

Let all times, both present, past,  
 And the age that shall be last,  
 Vaunt the beauties they bring  
 forth.

I have found in one such worth,  
 That content I neither care  
 What the best before me were ;  
 Nor desire to live and see  
 Who shall fair hereafter be ;  
 For I know the hand of Nature  
 Will not make a fairer creature.

G. WITHER (*The Mistress of Philarete*).

## 1075. SHALL I, WASTING IN DESPAIR

SHALL I, wasting in despair,  
 Die because a woman's fair ?  
 Or make pale my cheeks 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 ?

Should my heart be grieved or  
 pined  
 'Cause I see a woman kind ?  
 Or a well-disposèd nature  
 Joinèd 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 well-deserving, known,  
 Make me quite forget my own ?  
 Be she with that goodness blest  
 Which may gain her name of best,  
 If she be 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  
 That 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.



## 1076. SWEET BABY, SLEEP

SWEET baby, sleep! what ails my dear,  
 What ails my darling thus to cry?  
 Be still, my child, and lend thine ear  
 To hear me sing thy lullaby:  
 My pretty lamb, forbear to weep;  
 Be still, my dear; sweet baby, sleep.

. . . . .

The King of kings, when He was born,  
 Had not so much for outward ease;  
 By Him such dressings were not worn,  
 Nor such like swaddling-clothes as these.  
 Sweet baby, then forbear to weep;  
 Be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

Within a manger lodged thy Lord,  
 Where oxen lay, and asses fed:  
 Warm rooms we do to thee afford,  
 An easy cradle or a bed.  
 Sweet baby, then forbear to weep;  
 Be still, my babe; sweet baby, sleep.

G. WITHER.

## 1077. WHAT PEARLS, WHAT RUBIES

WHAT pearls, what rubies can  
 Seem so lovely fair to man,  
 As her lips whom he doth love,  
 When in sweet discourse they  
 move,

Or her lovelier teeth, the while  
 She doth bless him with a smile?

Stars indeed fair creatures be;  
 Yet amongst us where is he  
 Joys not more the while he lies  
 Sunning in his mistress' eyes,  
 Than in all the glimmering light  
 Of a starry winter's night?

. . . . .

Look on moon, on stars, on sun,  
 All God's creatures overrun,

See if all of them presents  
 To your mind such sweet con-  
 tents;

Or, if you from them can take  
 Aught that may a beauty make,  
 Shall one half so pleasing prove,  
 As is hers whom you do love.

. . . . .

Note the beauty of an eye—  
 And if aught you praise it by  
 Leave such passion in your mind,  
 Let my reason's eye be blind.  
 Mark if ever red or white  
 Anywhere gave such delight  
 As when they have taken place  
 In a worthy woman's face.

G. WITHER (*The Mistress of Philarete*).

## 1078. TO A KISS

SOFT child of love, thou balmy bliss,  
 Inform me, O delicious kiss,  
 Why thou so suddenly art gone,  
 Lost in the moment thou art won ?

Yet go ! For wherefore should I sigh ?  
 On Delia's lips, with raptured eye,  
 On Delia's blushing lips I see  
 A thousand full as sweet as thee.

J. WOLCOT.

## 1079. TO A FISH OF THE BROOKE

WHY flyest thou away with fear ?  
 Trust me there's naught of danger near,  
 I have no wicked hooke  
 All covered with a snaring bait,  
 Alas, to tempt thee to thy fate,  
 And dragge thee from the brookc.

O harmless tenant of the flood,  
 I do not wish to spill thy blood,  
 For Nature unto thee  
 Perchance hath given a tender wife,  
 And children dear, to charm thy life,  
 As she hath done for me.

Enjoy thy stream, O harmless fish ;  
 And when an angler, for his dish,  
 Through gluttony's vile sin,  
 Attempts, a wretch, to pull thee out,  
 God give thee strength, O gentle trout,  
 To pull the raskall in !

J. WOLCOT.

## 1080. TO MARY

IF I had thought thou couldst have died,  
 I might not weep for thee ;  
 But I forgot, when by thy side  
 That thou couldst mortal be :  
 It never through my mind had past  
 The time would e'er be o'er,  
 And I on thee should look my last,  
 And thou shouldst smile no more !

And still upon that face I look,  
 And think 'twill smile again ;  
 And still the thought I will not brook,  
 That I must look in vain.  
 But when I speak—thou dost not say  
 What thou ne'er left'st unsaid ;  
 And now I feel, as well I may,  
 Sweet Mary, thou art dead !

If thou wouldst stay, e'en as thou art,  
 All cold and all serene—  
 I still might press thy silent heart,  
 And where thy smiles have been.  
 While e'en thy chill, bleak corpse I have,  
 Thou seemest still mine own ;  
 But there—I lay thee in thy grave,  
 And I am now alone !

I do not think, where'er thou art,  
 Thou hast forgotten me ;  
 And I, perhaps, may soothe this heart  
 In thinking too of thee :  
 Yet there was round thee such a dawn  
 Of light ne'er seen before,  
 As fancy never could have drawn,  
 And never can restore !

C. WOLFE.

## 1081. 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 hollowed 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.

## 1082. DAWN

<p>O LILY with the heavenly sun          Shining upon thy breast !          My scattered passions toward thee          run,          And poise to awful rest.</p>	<p>The darkness of our universe          Smothered my soul in night ;          Thy glory shone ; whereat the          curse          Passed molten into light.</p>
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Raised over envy ; freed from pain ;  
 Beyond the storms of chance  
 Blessed king of my own world I reign,  
 Controlling circumstance.

T. WOOLNER (*My Beautiful Lady*).

## 1083. 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 passed 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 tripped 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 passed away from her eyes !

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1084. THE SOLITARY REAPER

<p>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.</p>	<p>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 heard          In Spring-time from the Cuckoo-          bird,          Breaking the silence of the seas          Among the farthest Hebrides.</p>
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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 hersong could have no ending;  
I saw her singing at her work,  
And o'er the sickle bending;—  
I listened, 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.

1085. FROM 'A POET'S EPITAPH'

BUT who is He, with modest looks,  
And clad in homely russet brown?  
He murmurs near the running brooks  
A music sweeter than their own.

He is retired as noontide dew,  
Or fountain in a noon-day grove;  
And you must love him, ere to you  
He will seem worthy of your love.

The outward shows of sky and earth,  
Of hill and valley, he has viewed;  
And impulses of deeper birth  
Have come to him in solitude.

In common things that round us lie  
Some random truths he can impart,—  
The harvest of a quiet eye  
That broods and sleeps on his own heart.

But he is weak; both Man and Boy,  
Hath been an idler in the land;  
Contented if he might enjoy  
The things which others understand.

W. WORDSWORTH.

1086. TO A YOUNG LADY

WHO HAD BEEN REPROACHED FOR TAKING LONG WALKS IN THE COUNTRY

DEAR Child of Nature, let them rail!  
—There is a nest in a green dale,  
A harbour and a hold;  
Where thou, a Wife and Friend, shalt see  
Thy own heart-stirring days, and be  
A light to young and old.

There, healthy as a shepherd boy,  
 And treading among flowers of joy  
 Which at no season fade,  
 Thou, while thy babes around thee cling,  
 Shalt show us how divine a thing  
 A Woman may be made.

Thy thoughts and feelings shall not die,  
 Nor leave thee, when grey hairs are nigh,  
 A melancholy slave ;  
 But an old age serene and bright,  
 And lovely as a Lapland night,  
 Shall lead thee to thy grave.

W. WORDSWORTH.

### 1087. BOOKS

DREAMS, books, are each a world ; and books, we know,  
 Are a substantial world, both pure and good :  
 Round these, with tendrils strong as flesh and blood,  
 Our pastime and our happiness will grow.  
 There find I personal themes, a plenteous store,  
 Matter wherein right voluble I am,  
 To which I listen with a ready ear ;  
 Two shall be named, pre-eminently dear,—  
 The gentle Lady married to the Moor ;  
 And heavenly Una with her milk-white Lamb.

W. WORDSWORTH (*Personal Talk*).

### 1088. COMPOSED 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.

## 1089. I TRAVELLED AMONG UNKNOWN MEN

I TRAVELLED 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 cherished turned her  
wheel

Beside an English fire.

Thy mornings showed, thy nights  
concealed,

The bowers where Lucy played ;  
And thine too is the last green field  
That Lucy's eyes surveyed.

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1090. I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD

I WANDERED 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 stretched 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.

## 1091. COMPOSED UPON THE BEACH NEAR CALAIS, 1802

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 broods o'er 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 untouched 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.

## 1092. WE MUST BE FREE OR DIE

It is not to be thought of that the flood  
 Of British freedom, which, to the open sea  
 Of the world's praise, from dark antiquity  
 Hath flowed, 'with pomp of waters, unwithstood',  
 Roused though it be full often to a mood  
 Which spurns the check of salutary bands,  
 That this most famous Stream in bogs and sands  
 Should perish; and to evil and to good  
 Be lost for ever. In our halls is hung  
 Armoury of the invincible knights of old:  
 We must be free or die, who speak the tongue  
 That Shakespeare spoke; the faith and morals hold  
 Which Milton held.—In everything we are sprung  
 Of Earth's first blood, have titles manifold.

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1093. LONDON, 1802

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;  
 Oh! 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.

## 1094. MY HEART LEAPS UP WHEN I BEHOLD

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.



## 1095. NUNS FRET NOT AT THEIR CONVENT'S NARROW ROOM

NUNS fret not at their convent's narrow room ;  
 And hermits are contented with their cells ;  
 And students with their pensive citadels ;  
 Maids at the wheel, the weaver at his loom,  
 Sit blithe and happy ; bees that soar for bloom,  
 High as the highest Peak of Furness-fells,  
 Will murmur by the hour in foxglove bells :  
 In truth the prison, unto which we doom  
 Ourselves, no prison is : and hence for me,  
 In sundry moods, 'twas pastime to be bound  
 Within the Sonnet's scanty plot of ground ;  
 Pleased if some Souls (for such there needs must be)  
 Who have felt the weight of too much liberty,  
 Should find brief solace there, as I have found.

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1096. WRITTEN IN LONDON, 1802

O FRIEND ! I know not which way I must look  
 For comfort, being, as I am, oppressed,  
 To think that now our life is only dressed  
 For show ; mean handy-work of craftsman, cook,  
 Or groom !—We must run glittering like a brook  
 In the open sunshine, or we are unblessed :  
 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.

## 1097. 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 reached its final day :  
 Men are we, and must grieve when even the Shade  
 Of that which once was great is passed away.

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1098. SCORN NOT THE SONNET

SCORN not the Sonnet ; Critic, you have frowned,  
 Mindless of its just honours ; with this key  
 Shakespeare unlocked his heart ; the melody  
 Of this small lute gave ease to Petrarch's wound ;  
 A thousand times this pipe did Tasso sound ;  
 With it Camœns soothed an exile's grief ;  
 The Sonnet glittered a gay myrtle leaf  
 Amid the cypress with which Dante crowned  
 His visionary brow : a glow-worm lamp,  
 It cheered mild Spenser, called from Faery-land  
 To struggle through dark ways ; and when a damp  
 Fell round the path of Milton, in his hand  
 The Thing became a trumpet ; whence he blew  
 Soul-animating strains—alas, too few !

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1099. SHE DWELT AMONG THE UNTRODDEN WAYS

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, oh,  
 The difference to me !

W. WORDSWORTH.

## 1100. SHE WAS A PHANTOM OF DELIGHT

SHE was a Phantom of delight  
 When first she gleamed 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 way-lay.

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 planned,  
 To warn, to comfort, and command ;  
 And yet a Spirit still, and bright  
 With something of angelic light.

W. WORDSWORTH.

### 1101. TO A CHILD

WRITTEN IN HER ALBUM

SMALL service is true service while it lasts :  
 Of humblest Friends, bright Creature ! scorn not one :  
 The Daisy, by the shadow that it casts  
 Protects the lingering dew-drop from the sun.

W. WORDSWORTH.

### 1102. THE STILL SAD MUSIC OF HUMANITY

THE sounding cataract  
 Haunted me like a passion : the tall rock,  
 The mountain, and the deep and gloomy wood,  
 Their colours and their forms, were then to me  
 An appetite ; a feeling and a love,  
 That had no need of a remoter charm,  
 By thought supplied, or any interest  
 Unborrowed from the eye.—That time is past,  
 And all its aching joys are now no more,  
 And all its dizzy raptures. Not for this  
 Faint I, nor mourn nor murmur ; other gifts  
 Have followed ; for such loss, I would believe,  
 Abundant recompense. For I have learned  
 To look on nature, not as in the hour  
 Of thoughtless youth ; but hearing oftentimes  
 The still, sad music of humanity,  
 Nor harsh nor grating, though of ample power  
 To chasten and subdue. . . .

Therefore am I still  
 A lover of the meadows and the woods,  
 And mountains ; and of all that we behold  
 From this green earth ; of all the mighty world  
 Of eye, and ear,—both what they half create,  
 And what perceive ; well pleased to recognize  
 In nature and the language of the sense  
 The anchor of my purest thoughts, the nurse,  
 The guide, the guardian of my heart, and soul  
 Of all my moral being.

W. WORDSWORTH (*Tintern Abbey*).

## 1103. THE WORLD IS TOO MUCH WITH US

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-gathered 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 wreathèd horn.

W. WORDSWORTH.

1104. 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  
     Apparelled 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 passed 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 blessèd 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.  
     Oh 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 looked 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-learnèd 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 lie 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 blessed,  
 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 awake,

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,  
 Forebode not any severing of our loves!  
 Yet in my heart of hearts I feel your might;  
 I only have relinquished one delight  
 To live beneath your more habitual sway.  
 I love the Brooks which down their channels fret,  
 Even more than when I tripped 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.

### 1105. THREE YEARS SHE GREW

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 hers shall be the breathing balm,  
And hers 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  
Even 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.

### 1106. UP ! UP ! MY FRIEND

UP ! up ! my Friend, and quit your  
books ;  
Or surely you'll grow double :  
Up ! up ! my Friend, and clear  
your looks,  
Why all this toil and trouble ?  
The sun, above the mountain's  
head,  
A freshening lustre mellow  
Through all the long green fields  
has spread,  
His first sweet evening yellow.

Books ! 'tis a dull and endless  
strife :  
Come, hear the woodland linnet,  
How sweet his music ! on my  
life,  
There's more of wisdom in it.  
And hark ! how blithe the throstle  
sings !  
He, too, is no mean preacher :  
Come forth into the light of things,  
Let Nature be your teacher.

. . . . .

One impulse from a vernal wood  
 May teach you more of man,  
 Of moral evil and of good,  
 Than all the sages can.

W. WORDSWORTH (*The Tables Turned*).

1107. FROM 'THE AFFLICTION OF MARGARET'

WHERE art thou, my beloved Son,  
 Where art thou, worse to me than  
 dead ?

Oh find me, prosperous or un-  
 done !

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 ?

My Son, if thou be humbled, poor,  
 Hopeless of honour and of gain,  
 Oh ! 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.

Perhaps some dungeon hears thee  
 groan,

Maimed, mangled by inhuman  
 men ;

Or thou upon a desert thrown  
 Inheritest the lion's den ;

Or hast been summoned 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.

W. WORDSWORTH.

1108. UPON THE DEATH OF SIR ALBERTUS  
 MORTON'S WIFE

HE first deceased ; she for a little tried  
 To live without him, liked it not, and died.

SIR H. WOTTON.

1109. 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,  
 Untied unto the world by care  
 Of public fame or private breath ;

Who envies none that chance doth raise,  
 Nor vice ; hath 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.

#### 1110. ON THE SPRING

THIS Day Dame Nature seemed in love :  
 The lusty sap began to move ;  
 Fresh juice did stir the embracing vines,  
 And birds had drawn their valentines,  
 The jealous trout, that low did lie,  
 Rose at a well-dissembled fly ;  
 There stood my friend with patient skill,  
 Attending of his trembling quill.  
 Already were the eaves possessed  
 With the swift pilgrims' daubèd nest :  
 The groves already did rejoice,  
 In Philomel's triumphing voice :  
 The showers were short, the weather mild,  
 The morning fresh, the evening smiled.  
 Joan takes her neat rubbed pail, and now  
 She trips to milk the sand-red cow ;  
 Where, for some sturdy football swain,  
 Joan strokes a syllabub or twain ;  
 The fields and gardens were beset  
 With tulip, crocus, violet,  
 And now, though late, the modest rose  
 Did more than half a blush disclose.  
 Thus all looked gay, and full of cheer  
 To welcome the new-liveried year.

SIR H. WOTTON.

1111. ON HIS MISTRESS, THE QUEEN  
OF BOHEMIA

You meaner beauties of the night,  
That 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 ?

You 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 shall raise ?

You 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 ?

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

SIR H. WOTTON.

1112. AND WILT THOU LEAVE ME THUS

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. WYATT.

1113. BLAME NOT MY LUTE

BLAME not my Lute ! for he must sound  
 Of this or that as liketh me ;  
 For lack of wit the Lute is bound  
 To give such tunes as pleaseth me ;  
 Though my songs be somewhat strange,  
 And speak such words as touch thy change,  
 Blame not my Lute !

My Lute, alas ! doth not offend,  
 Though that perforce he must agree  
 To sound such tunes as I intend  
 To sing to them that heareth me ;  
 Then though my songs be somewhat plain,  
 And toucheth some that use to feign,  
 Blame not my Lute !

My Lute and strings may not deny,  
 But as I strike they must obey ;  
 Break not them then so wrongfully,  
 But wreak thyself some other way ;  
 And though the songs which I indite  
 Do quit thy change with rightful spite,  
 Blame not my Lute !

. . . . .

Blame but thyself that hast misdone,  
 And well deserved to have blame ;  
 Change thou thy way, so evil begone,  
 And then my Lute shall sound that same ;  
 But if till then my fingers play,  
 By thy desert their wonted way,  
 Blame not my Lute !      SIR T. WYATT.

1114. FORGET NOT YET

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 the great assays, The cruel wrong, the scornful ways, The painful patience in delays, 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 ! oh ! 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. WYATT.

1115. THEY FLEE FROM ME THAT SOMETIME DID ME  
SEEK

THEY flee from me that sometime did me seek,  
 With naked foot stalking within my chamber :  
 Once have I seen them gentle, tame, and meek,  
 That now are wild, and do not once remember  
 That sometime they have put themselves in danger  
 To take bread at my hand ; and now they range,  
 Busily seeking in continual change.

Thankèd be fortune, it hath been otherwise  
 Twenty times better ; but once especial—  
 In thin array—after a pleasant guise,  
 When her loose gown did from her shoulders fall,  
 And she me caught in her arms long and small,  
 And therewithal so sweetly did me kiss,  
 And softly said, ‘ Dear heart, how like you this ? ’

It was no dream ; for I lay broad awaking :  
 But all is turned now, through my gentleness,  
 Into a bitter fashion of forsaking ;  
 And I have leave to go of her goodness ;  
 And she also to use new-fangleness.  
 But since that I unkindly so am servèd,  
 ‘ How like you this ? ’—what hath she now servèd ?  
 SIR T. WYATT.

## 1116. THE FAIR THIEF

BEFORE the urchin well could go,  
 She stole the whiteness of the snow ;  
 And more, that whiteness to adorn,  
 She stole the blushes of the morn ;  
 Stole all the sweetness ether sheds  
 On primrose buds and violet beds.

Still to reveal her artful wiles  
 She stole the Graces’ silken smiles ;  
 She stole Aurora’s balmy breath ;  
 And pilfered orient pearl for teeth ;  
 The cherry, dipped in morning dew,  
 Gave moisture to her lips, and hue.

These were her infant spoils, a store ;  
 And she, in time, still pilfered more !  
 At twelve, she stole from Cyprus’ queen  
 Her air and love-commanding mien ;  
 Stole Juno’s dignity ; and stole  
 From Pallas sense to charm the soul.

Apollo's wit was next her prey ;  
 Her next, the beam that lights the day ;  
 She sang ;—amazed, the Sirens heard ;  
 And to assert their voice appeared.  
 She played ;—the Muses from their hill,  
 Wondered who thus had stole their skill.

Great Jove approved her crimes and art ;  
 And, t'other day, she stole my heart !  
 If lovers, Cupid, are thy care,  
 Exert thy vengeance on this Fair :  
 To trial bring her stolen charms,  
 And let her prison be my arms !

C. WYNDHAM, EARL OF EGREMONT.

### 1117. THE WHEEDLER

IN vain, dear Chloe, you suggest  
 That I, inconstant, have possessed  
 Or loved a fairer she ;  
 Would you with ease at once be cure  
 Of all the ills you've long endured,  
 Consult your glass and me !

If then you think that I can find  
 A nymph more fair, or one more kind,  
 You've reason for your fears ;  
 But if impartial you will prove  
 To your own beauty and my love,  
 How needless are your tears !

If, in my way, I should by chance  
 Receive, or give, a wanton glance,  
 I like but while I view ;  
 How slight the glance, how faint the kiss,  
 Compared to that substantial bliss  
 Which I receive from you !

With wanton flight the curious bee  
 From flower to flower still wanders free ;  
 And where each blossom blows,  
 Extracts the juice of all he meets,  
 But for his quintessence of sweets,  
 He ravishes the rose.

So, my fond fancy to employ  
 On each variety of joy  
 From nymph to nymph I roam ;  
 Perhaps see fifty in a day !  
 Those are but visits which I pay—  
 For Chloe is my home !

SIR W. YONGE.

## 1118. PROCRASTINATION

BE wise to-day: 'tis madness to defer;  
 Next day the fatal precedent will plead;  
 Thus on, till wisdom is pushed out of life.  
 Procrastination is the thief of time.

. . . . .  
 All promise is poor dilatory man,  
 And that through every stage: when young, indeed,  
 In full content we, sometimes, nobly rest,  
 Unanxious for ourselves; and only wish,  
 As duteous sons, our fathers were more wise.  
 At thirty man suspects himself a fool;  
 Knows it at forty, and reforms his plan;  
 At fifty chides his infamous delay,  
 Pushes his prudent purpose to resolve;  
 In all the magnanimity of thought  
 Resolves; and re-resolves; then, dies the same.

E. YOUNG (*Night Thoughts*).

## 1119. NIGHT

O MAJESTIC Night!

Nature's great ancestor! Day's elder born!  
 And fated to survive the transient sun!  
 By mortals and immortals seen with awe!  
 A starry crown thy raven brow adorns,  
 An azure zone thy waist; clouds, in heaven's loom  
 Wrought through varieties of shape and shade,  
 In ample folds of drapery divine,  
 Thy flowing mantle form, and, heaven throughout,  
 Voluminously pour thy pompous train:  
 Thy gloomy grandeurs—Nature's most august,  
 In spirit aspect!—claim a grateful verse;  
 And like a sable curtain starred with gold,  
 Drawn o'er my labours past, shall clothe the scene.

E. YOUNG (*Night Thoughts*).

## 1120. SLEEP

TIRED Nature's sweet restorer, balmy Sleep!  
 He, like the world, his ready visit pays  
 Where fortune smiles; the wretched he forsakes,  
 Swift on his downy pinions flies from woe,  
 And lights on lids unsullied by a tear!

E. YOUNG (*Night Thoughts*).



## 1121. AUTHORS AND CRITICS

With fame in just proportion envy grows ;  
 The man that makes a character makes foes ;  
 Slight peevish insects round a genius rise,  
 As a bright day awakes the world of flies ;  
 With hearty malice, but with feeble wing,  
 To show they live, they flutter and they sting :  
 But as by depredations wasps proclaim  
 The fairest fruit, so these the fairest fame.

E. YOUNG (*Epistle to Pope*).

## 1122. THE BIRKENHEAD

AMID the loud ebriety of war,  
 With shouts of 'la République' and 'la Gloire',  
 The *Vengeur's* crew, 'twas said, with flying flag  
 And broadside blazing level with the wave  
 Went down erect, defiant, to their grave  
 Beneath the sea. 'Twas but a Frenchman's brag,  
 Yet Europe rang with it for many a year.  
 Now we recount no fable: England, hear!  
 And when they tell thee 'England is a fen  
 Corrupt, a kingdom tottering to decay,  
 Her nerveless burghers lying an easy prey  
 For the first comer,' tell how the other day  
 A crew of half a thousand Englishmen  
 Went down into the deep in Simon's Bay!

Not with the cheer of battle in the throat,  
 Or cannon-glare or din to stir their blood,  
 But, roused from dreams of home to find their boat  
 Fast sinking, mustered on the deck they stood,  
 Biding God's pleasure and their chief's command.  
 Calm was the sea, but not less calm that band  
 Close ranged upon the poop, with bated breath,  
 But flinching not though eye to eye with death.  
 Heroes! Who were these heroes? Veterans steeled  
 To face the King of Terrors mid the scaith  
 Of many a hurricane and trenchèd field?  
 Far other: weavers from the stocking-frame;  
 Boys from the plough; cornets with beardless chin,  
 But steeped in honour and in discipline.

Weep, Britain, for the Cape whose ill-starred name,  
 Long since divorced from Hope suggests but shame,  
 Disaster, and thy captains held at bay  
 By naked hordes; but, as thou weepest, thank  
 Heaven for those undegenerate sons who sank  
 Aboard the *Birkenhead* in Simon's Bay! SIR H. YULE.

## 1123. THE TWA CORBIES

As I was walking all alane  
 I heard twa corbies making a mane ;  
 The tane unto the t'other say,  
 'Where sall 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 hause-bane,  
 And I'll pick out his bonny blue een :  
 Wi' ae loek o' his gowden hair  
 We'll theek our nest when it grows bare.

'Mony a ane 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.'

(SCOTT'S *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border.*)

## 1124. FROM 'LADY ANNE BOTHWELL'S LAMENT'

BALOW, my babe ! lie still and sleep,  
 It grieves me sair to see thee weep :  
 If thoust be silent, Ise be glad,  
 Thy maining maks my heart full sad.  
 Balow, my boy ! thy mother's joy !  
 Thy father breeds me great annoy.  
     Balow, my babe ! lie still and sleep,  
 It grieves me sair to see thee weep.

When he began to court my luv,  
 And with his sugared words to move,  
 His feignings false and flattering cheer  
 To me that time did not appear :  
 But now I see, most cruel he  
 Cares neither for my babe nor me.  
     Balow, my babe, &c.

Lie still, my darling! sleep awhile,  
 And when thou wakest, sweetly smile;  
 But smile not as thy father did,  
 To cozen maids; nay, God forbid!  
 But yet I fear thou wilt gae near  
 Thy father's heart and face to bear.  
 Balow, my babe, &c.

I canna choose but ever will  
 Be luv'ing to thy father still:  
 Where'er he gae, where'er he ride,  
 My luv' with him doth still abide:  
 In weel or wae, where'er he gae,  
 Mine heart can ne'er depart him frae.  
 Balow, my babe! lie still and sleep,  
 It grieves me sair to see thee weep.

(PERCY'S *Reliques*.)

### 1125. THE QUEEN OF FAIRIES

COME follow, follow me,  
 You, fairy elves that be,  
 Which circle on the green;  
 Come follow me, your queen.  
 Hand in hand, let's dance a  
 round,  
 For this place is fairy ground.

When mortals are at rest,  
 And snorting in their nest;  
 Unheard and unespied,  
 Through key-holes we do glide;  
 Over tables, stools, and shelves,  
 We trip it with our fairy elves.

And, if the house be foul,  
 Or platter, dish, or bowl,  
 Up stairs we nimbly creep,  
 And find the sluts asleep:  
 There we pinch their arms and  
 thighs—  
 None escapes; nor none espies.

But if the house be swept,  
 And from uncleanness kept,  
 We praise the household maid,  
 And surely she is paid:  
 For we do use before we go,  
 To drop a tester in her shoe.

Upon a mushroom's head,  
 Our table we do spread;  
 A grain of rye, or wheat,  
 Is manchet, which we eat;  
 Pearly drops of dew we drink  
 In acorn cups filled to the brink.

The brains of nightingales,  
 With unctuous dew of snails,  
 Between two nutshells stewed,  
 Is meat that's easily chewed;  
 And the beards of little mice  
 Do make a feast of wondrous price.

The grasshopper and the fly,  
 Serve for our minstrelsy;  
 Grace said, we dance a while,  
 And so the time beguile:  
 And when the moon doth hide her  
 head,  
 The glow-worm lights us home to  
 bed.

On tops of dewy grass,  
 So nimbly do we pass,  
 The young and tender stalk  
 Ne'er bends when we do walk;  
 Yet in the morning may be seen  
 Where we, the night before, have  
 been.

(1658)

## 1126. WILLIE 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 hing-  
ing.

' The lav'rock there, wi' her white  
breast  
And gentle throat sae narrow !  
There 's sport eneuch for gentle-  
men  
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 's 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 nar-  
row ;

Syne, in the cleaving of a crag,  
She found him drowned in Yar-  
row.

(c. 17th cent. *Palgrave's version.*)

## 1127. TO TIME

ETERNAL Time, that wastest without waste,  
That art and art not ! diest, and livest still ;  
Most slow of all ; and yet of greatest haste ;  
Both ill and good ; and neither good nor ill :  
How can I justly praise thee, or dispraise ?  
Dark are thy nights, but bright and clear thy days.

Both free and scarce, thou giv'st and tak'st again ;  
Thy womb that all doth breed, is tomb to all ;  
What so by thee hath life, by thee is slain ;  
From thee do all things rise, by thee they fall !  
Constant, inconstant, moving, standing still ;  
*Was, Is, Shall Bee*, do thee both breed and kill !

I lose thee, while I seek to find thee out ;  
 The farther off, the more I follow thee ;  
 The faster hold, the greater cause of doubt !  
*Was, Is, I know ; but Shall I cannot see.*  
 All things by thee are measured ; thou, by none ;  
 All are in thee ! Thou, in thyself alone !  
 (A. W., 1602.)

## 1128. GOD BE IN MY HEAD

God be in my head,  
 And in my understanding ;

God be in mine eyes,  
 And in my looking ;

God be in my mouth,  
 And in my speaking ;

God be in my heart,  
 And in my thinking ;

God be at mine end,  
 And at my departing.

(*Sarum Primer*, 1558.)

## 1129. I SAW MY LADY WEEP

I SAW my lady weep,  
 And sorrow proud to be advanced so  
 In those fair eyes, where all perfections keep.  
 Her face was full of woe,  
 But such a woe, believe me, as wins more hearts  
 Than mirth can do with her enticing parts.

Sorrow was there made fair,  
 And passion wise ! Tears, a delightful thing,  
 Silence, beyond all speech a wisdom rare !  
 She made her sighs to sing ;  
 And all things with so sweet a sadness move,  
 As made my heart at once both grieve and love.

Oh fairer than aught else  
 The world can show ! Leave off in time to grieve,  
 Enough, enough ! your joyful look excels,  
 Tears kill the heart, believe.  
 Oh, strive not to be excellent in woe,  
 Which only breeds your beauty's overthrow.

(1600)

## 1130. HELEN OF KIRCONNELL

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 ye my heart was sair  
 When my Love dropt down and spak nae mair !  
 There did she swoon 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 hackèd him in pieces sma',  
 I hackèd 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 cen,  
 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,  
 For her sake that died for me.

(SCOTT'S *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border.*)

## 1131. THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, my happy home,  
When shall I come to thee ?  
When shall my sorrows have an  
end ?

Thy joys when shall I see ?

O happy harbour of the saints !  
O sweet and pleasant soil !  
In thee no sorrow may be found,  
No grief, no care, no toil.

In thee no sickness may be seen,  
No hurt, no ache, no sore ;  
There is no death, nor ugly devil,  
There is life for evermore.

No dampish mist is seen in thee  
No cold, nor darksome night ;  
There every soul shines as the  
sun,  
There God Himself gives light.

There lust and lucre cannot dwell,  
There envy bears no sway ;  
There is no hunger, heat, nor cold,  
But pleasure every way.

Jerusalem ! Jerusalem !  
God grant I once may see  
Thy endless joys, and of the same  
Partaker ay to be !

Thy walls are made of precious  
stones ;  
Thy bulwarks diamonds square ;  
Thy gates are of right orient  
pearl,  
Exceeding rich and rare.

Thy turrets and thy pinnacles  
With carbuncles do shine ;  
Thy very streets are paved with  
gold,  
Surpassing clear and fine.

Thy houses are of ivory ;  
Thy windows crystal clear ;  
Thy tiles are made of beaten gold ;  
O God that I were there !  
. . . . .

We that are here in banishment  
Continually do mourn ;  
We sigh and sob, we weep and  
wail ;  
Perpetually we groan.

Our sweet is mixed with bitter gall ;  
Our pleasure is but pain ;  
Our joys scarce last the looking on ;  
Our sorrows still remain.

But there they live in such delight,  
Such pleasure and such play,  
As that to them a thousand years  
Doth seem as yesterday.

Thy vineyards and thy orchards are  
Most beautiful and fair ;  
Full furnished with trees and fruits  
Most wonderful and rare.

Thy gardens and thy gallant walks  
Continually are green ;  
There grow such sweet and pleas-  
ant flowers  
As nowhere else are seen.

There's nectar and ambrosia  
made ;  
There's musk and civet sweet ;  
There many a fair and dainty drug  
Are trodden under feet.  
. . . . .

There David stands, with harp in  
hand  
As master of the quire ;  
Ten thousand times that man were  
blest  
That might this music hear !

Our Lady sings *Magnificat*  
With tune surpassing sweet,  
And all the virgins bear their parts,  
Sitting about her feet.

*Te Deum* doth St. Ambrose sing ;  
St. Austin doth the like ;  
Old Simeon and Zacharie  
Have not their songs to seek.

There Magdalene hath left her moan, And cheerfully doth sing With blessed saints, whose harmony In every street doth ring.	Jerusalem, my happy home, Would God I were in thee! Would God my woes were at an end, Thy joys that I might see! (F. B. P. 16th cent.)
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## 1132. THE CANADIAN BOAT SONG

LISTEN to me, as when ye heard our father  
 Sing long ago the song of other shores—  
 Listen to me, and then in chorns gather  
 All your deep voices as ye pull your oars :  
   Fair these broad meads—these hoary woods are grand ;  
   But we are exiles from our fathers' land.

From the lone shieling of the misty island  
 Mountains divide us, and the waste of seas—  
 Yet still the blood is strong, the heart is Highland,  
 And we in dreams behold the Hebrides :  
   Fair these broad meads, &c.

We ne'er shall tread the fancy-haunted valley,  
 Where 'tween the dark hills creeps the small clear stream,  
 In arms around the patriarch banner rally,  
 Nor see the moon on royal tombstones gleam :  
   Fair these broad meads, &c.

When the bold kindred, in the time long-vanished,  
 Conquered the soil and fortified the keep,—  
 No seer foretold the children would be banished,  
 That a degenerate Lord might boast his sheep :  
   Fair these broad meads, &c.

Come foreign rage—let Discord burst in slaughter !  
 O then for clansmen true, and stern claymore—  
 The hearts that would have given their blood like water,  
 Beat heavily beyond the Atlantic roar :  
   Fair these broad meads—these hoary woods are grand ;  
   But we are exiles from our fathers' land.  
   (18—, ? J. WILSON.)

## 1133. LOVE IN THY YOUTH, FAIR MAID

LOVE in thy youth, fair maid, be wise,  
   Old Time will make thee colder,  
 And though each morning new arise,  
   Yet we each day grow older.



Thou as heaven art fair and young,  
 Thine eyes like twin stars shining ;  
 But ere another day be sprung,  
 All these will be declining ;

Then winter comes with all his fears,  
 And all thy sweets shall borrow ;  
 Too late then wilt thou shower thy tears,  
 And I, too late, shall sorrow.

(1632)

## 1134. FROM 'LOVE ME LITTLE, LOVE ME LONG'

LOVE me little, love me long,  
 Is the burden of my song :  
 Love that is too hot and strong  
 Burneth soon to waste.  
 Still I would not have thee cold,  
 Not too backward nor too bold ;  
 Love that lasteth till 'tis old  
 Fadeth not in haste.  
 Love me little, love me long  
 Is the burden of my song.

(1569-70)

## 1135. LOVE NOT ME FOR COMELY GRACE

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.

(1609)

## 1136. MY LOVE IN HER ATTIRE DOTH SHOW HER WIT.

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.

(1602)

## 1137. O WALY WALY UP THE BANK

O waly waly up the bank,  
 And waly waly down the brae,  
 And waly waly yon burn-side  
 Where I and my Love wer 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 it's auld, it waxeth cauld  
 And fades awa' like morning dew.  
 O wherfore shuld I busk my head?  
 Or wherfore shuld 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 fyl'd 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, whan 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 grawn cauld to me,  
 When we came in by Glasgow town  
 We were a comely sight to see;  
 My Love was cled in black velvet,  
 And I mysell in cramasie.

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,  
 For a maid again I'se never be.

(PERCY'S *Reliques*.)

## 1138. ROSES, THEIR SHARP SPINES BEING GONE

ROSES, their sharp spines being  
gone,  
Not royal in their smells alone,  
But in their hue;  
Maiden-pinks, of odour faint,  
Daisies smell-less, yet most quaint,  
And sweet thyme true;

Primrose, first-born child of Ver,  
Merry spring-time's harbinger,  
With her bells dim;  
Oxlips, in their cradles grow-  
ing,  
Marigolds, on death-beds blow-  
ing,  
Lark-heels trim;

All, dear Nature's children sweet,  
Lie 'fore bride and bridegroom's  
feet,

Blessing their sense.  
Not an angel of the air,  
Bird melodious or bird fair,  
Be absent hence!

The crow, the slanderous cuckoo,  
nor

The boding raven, nor chough hoar,  
Nor chattering pie,  
May on our bride-house perch or  
sing,  
Or with them any discord bring,  
But from it fly.

(1634, *Two Noble Kinsmen*, ? J. FLETCHER.)

## 1139. SINCE FIRST I SAW YOUR FACE

SINCE first I saw your face I resolved to honour and renown ye;  
If now I be disdainèd I wish my heart had never known ye.  
What? I that loved and you that liked, shall we begin to wrangle?  
No, no, no, my heart is fast, and cannot disentangle.

If I admire or praise you too much, that fault you may forgive me;  
Or if my hands had strayed but a touch, then justly might you leave me.  
I asked you leave, you bade me love; is't now a time to chide me?  
No, no, no, I'll love you still what fortune e'er betide me.

The Sun, whose beams most glorious are, rejecteth no beholder,  
And your sweet beauty past compare made my poor eyes the bolder:  
Where beauty moves and wit delights and signs of kindness bind me  
There, O there! where'er I go I'll leave my heart behind me!

(1607)

## 1140. DRAKE

SIR Drake, whom well the world's end knew,  
Which thou didst compass round,  
And whom both poles of heaven once saw,  
Which north and south do bound,

The stars above would make thee known,  
If men here silent were;  
The sun himself cannot forget  
His fellow-traveller.

## 1141. SISTER, AWAKE

SISTER, awake! close not your eyes!  
 The day her light discloses,  
 And the bright morning doth arise  
 Out of her bed of roses.

See the clear sun, the world's bright eye,  
 In at our window peeping:  
 Lo, how he bluseth to espy  
 Us idle wenchies sleeping!

Therefore awake! make haste, I say,  
 And let us, without staying,  
 All in our gowns of green so gay  
 Into the park a-maying.

(1604)

## 1142. SUMMER IS COMING

SUMMER is a-coming in!

Loud sing cuckoo:  
 Groweth seed and bloweth mead,  
 And springeth the wood now.  
 Sing cuckoo, cuckoo.

Ewe bleateth after lamb,  
 Loweth after calf the cow;  
 Bullock starteth, buck verteth;  
 Merry sing, cuckoo,  
 Cuckoo, cuckoo.

Well singest thou cuckoo;  
 Nor cease thou never now,  
 Sing cuckoo now,  
 Sing cuckoo.

(c. 1250)

## 1143. SWEET SUFFOLK OWL

SWEET Suffolk owl, so trimly dight  
 With feathers, like a lady bright;  
 Thou sing'st alone, sitting by night,  
 'Te whit! Te whoo!'

Thy note that forth so freely rolls  
 With shrill command the mouse controls;  
 And sings a dirge for dying souls.  
 'Te whit! Te whoo!'

(1619)

## 1144. A PROPHET THAT CASSANDRA-LIKE

THE sea hath many thousand  
 sands,  
 The sun hath motes as many;  
 The sky is full of stars, and Love  
 As full of woes as any:  
 Believe me, that do know the elf,  
 And make no trial by thyself.

It is in truth a pretty toy  
 For babes to play withal;  
 But O, the honies of our youth  
 Are oft our age's gall:  
 Self-proof in time will make thee  
 know  
 He was a prophet told thee so:

A prophet that, Cassandra-like,  
 Tells truth without belief ;  
 For headstrong youth will run his race,  
 Although his goal be grief :  
 Love's martyr, when his heat is past,  
 Proves Care's confessor at the last.

(1610)

## 1145. 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 filled 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 !

(1616, ? T. CAMPION)

## 1146. THE THREE RAVENS

THERE were three ravens sat on a tree,  
 Down a down !  
 They were as black as they might be,  
 With a down !  
 The one of them said to his mate,  
 ' Where shall we our breakfast take ? '  
 ' Down in yonder green field,  
 There lies a knight slain, under his shield.  
 His hounds they lie down at his feet,  
 So well they can their master keep !  
 His hawks, they fly so eagerly,  
 There's no small fowl dare him come nigh ! '  
 Down there comes a fallow doe,  
 As great with young as she might go.  
 She lifted up his bloody head,  
 And kissed his wounds that were so red.

She got him up upon her back,  
 And carried him to earthen lake.  
 She buried him before the prime ;  
 She was dead herself ere evensong time.

God send every gentleman,  
                   Down a down !  
 Such hawks, such hounds, and such a leman  
                   With a down !

(1611)

## 1147. WEEP YOU NO MORE, SAD FOUNTAINS

<p>WEEP you no more, sad fountains ;          What need you flow so fast ?          Look how the snowy mountains            Heaven's sun doth gently waste.          But my sun's heavenly eyes            View not your weeping,            That now lies sleeping          Softly, now softly lies            Sleeping.</p>	<p>Sleep is a reconciling,            A rest that peace begets ;          Doth not the sun rise smiling            When fair at eve he sets ?          Rest you, then, rest, sad eyes,            Melt not in weeping            While she lies sleeping          Softly, now softly lies            Sleeping.</p>
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(1603)

## 1148. WHEN MOLLY SMILES

WHEN Molly smiles beneath her cow,  
 I feel my heart—I can't tell how ;  
 When Molly is on Sunday dressed,  
 On Sundays I can take no rest.

What can I do ? on worky days  
 I leave my work on her to gaze.  
 What shall I say ? At sermons, I  
 Forget the text when Molly's by.

Good master curate, teach me how  
 To mind your preaching and my plough :  
 And if for this you'll raise a spell,  
 A good fat goose shall thank you well. (1732)

## 1149. THE FAITHLESS LOVER

WHILE that the sun with his beams hot  
 Scorched the fruits in vale and mountain,  
 Philon, the shepherd, late forgot,  
 Sitting beside a crystal fountain  
   In the shadow of a green oak tree,  
   Upon his pipe this song played 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, your treasure ;  
 And evermore you sobbed and sighed,  
 Burning in flames beyond all measure :  
 —Three days endured your love to me,  
 And it was lost in other three !  
 Adieu, Love, &c.

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, &c.

Sure you have me passing glad  
 That you your mind so soon removèd  
 Before that I the leisure had  
 To choose you for my best belovèd :  
 For all my love was passed 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. (1589)

## 1150. THE BONNY EARL OF MURRAY

YE Highlands, and ye Lawlands,  
 Oh, where have you been ?  
 They have slain the Earl of  
 Murray,  
 And they laid him on the green.

Now wae to thee, Huntley,  
 And wherefore did you sae ?  
 I bade you bring him wi' you,  
 But forbad you him to slay.

He was a braw gallant,  
 And he rid at the ring ;  
 And the bonny Earl of Murray,  
 Oh, he might have been a King !

He was a braw gallant,  
 And he play'd at the ba' ;  
 And the honny Earl of Murray  
 Was the flower amang them a'.

He was a braw gallant,  
 And he play'd at the glove ;  
 And the bonny Earl of Murray  
 Oh, he was the Queen's Love !

Oh ! lang will his lady  
 Look o'er the Castle Down,  
 Ere she see the Earl of Murray  
 Come sounding through the  
 town !  
 (HERD'S *Scots Songs* : 1769)

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