Large is the leisure of their peaceful days;

For summer is a dream of flowers and bees,

Till autumn puts forth lengthening ivy sprays,

And from the orchard trees

With golden apples falling one by one

Counts the slow lapsing hours till all be done,

And winter tempests turned to sleep

Safe 'neath the shining stars the Happy Valley keep.

Small is the homestead, and a vapour thin

Thriftily oozes from the chimney stack;

Behind, the high-roofed granaries hem it in

All orange-tiled and black;

Like silent barges pilèd high

With golden grain, that moveless lie

About the craft, whose fires run low

Had power to draw them there but may no farther go.

O track too little for an empire's wheels,

Too humble for the gorgeous car of state,

All Heaven-high thoughts that human spirit feels

Find entrance at thy gate: