

‘That I shall ever stay from home ;  
I'll keep my promise true ;  
And I'll return in half an hour,  
So cheer up, darling, do.”

He shut the door, and soon his step  
Grew fainter on her ear,  
As down the street, so rapidly,  
He, to a tavern near,

Entered ; and there he met old friends  
Who urged him on to stay ;  
In drink, and coarse and foolish jests,  
The time fast passed away.

He never really meant to stay  
Beyond the promised time,  
And started, in dismay, to hear  
Twelve, from the town clock, chime.