And within the palace tower the little prince slept well,

His head upon his mother's heart, that knew no more alarms;

For at the midnight hour—O most sweet and strange to tell—

She too slept deeply as the child close folded in her arms.

Hard through the city rode the king, unarmed, unhelmeted,

Toward the land he loaned his bondsinen, the country kept in peace;

He swayed upon his saddle, and he looked as looked the dead—

The people stared and wondered though their weeping did not cease.

On did he ride to Goshen, and he called "Arise! Arise!

Thou leader of the Israelites, 'tis I who bid you go!

Take thou these people hence, before the sun hath lit the skies;—

Get thee beyond the border of this land of death and woe!"