Theft where the guardian calls,

Theft where the gazers swell;

Theft in the gutted halls,

Theft where the gallant dwell,

What hell in the winter's night!

Smoke when the flame is whelmed,
Smoke when the gable falls;
Smoke when the victor helmed
"Home" on the bugle calls,
From fire in the winter's night.

Loss to the homeless wight,

Loss to the city's wealth;

Loss counted oft too light,

Loss to the fireman's health,

From fire in the winter's night.