HEN a light cloud rose up for hardihood,

Trailing a veil of snow that whirled and broke,

Blown softly like a shroud of steam or smoke,

Sallied across a knoll where maples stood,

Charged over broken country for a rood,

Then seeing the night withdrew his force and fled,

Leaving the ground with snowflakes thinly spread,

And traces of the skirmish in the wood.

DUNCAN CAMPBELL SCOTT