

And with one start, and with one cry, the royal  
city woke.

At once on all her stately gates arose the answer-  
ing fires ;

At once the wild alarum clashed from all her reel-  
ing spires.

From all the batteries of the Tower pealed loud  
the voice of fear ;

And all the thousand masts of Thames sent forth a  
louder cheer ;

And from the farthest wards was heard the rush of  
hurrying feet,

And the broad streams of pikes and flags rushed  
down each roaring street.

And broader still became the blaze and louder still  
the din.

As fast from every village round the horse came  
spurring in.

And eastward straight from wild Blackheath the  
warlike errand went,

And roused in many an ancient hall the gallant  
Squires of Kent.

Southward from Surrey's pleasant hills flew those  
bright couriers forth ;

High on bleak Hampstead's swarthy moor they  
started for the north ;