THE BURIAL OF THE SCOUT.

O not with arms reversed.

And the slow beating of the muffled drum,
And funeral marches, bring our hero home!

These stormy woods where his young heart was nursed
Ring with a trumpet burst

Of jubilant music, as if he who lies
With shrouded face, and lips all white and dumb,
Were a crowned conqueror entering paradise,—

This is his welcome home!

Along the reedy marge of the dim lake,

I hear the gathering horsemen of the North;
The cavalry of night and tempest wake,—

Blowing keen bugles as they issue forth,
To guard his homeward march in frost and cold,

A thousand spearmen bold!

And the deep-bosomed woods,
With their dishevelled locks all wildly spread,
Stretch ghostly arms to clasp the immortal dead,
Back to their solitudes:
While through their rocking branches overhead,
And all their shuddering pulses underground