

Recall Christ, brother of rejected persons—brother of slaves,
felons, idiots, and of insane and diseas'd persons.

Think of the time when you were not yet born ;
Think of times you stood at the side of the dying ;
Think of the time when your own body will be dying.

Think of spiritual results,
Sure as the earth swims through the heavens, does every one of
its objects pass into spiritual results.

Think of manhood, and you to be a man ;
Do you count manhood, and the sweet of manhood, nothing ?

Think of womanhood, and you to be a woman ; 20
The creation is womanhood ;
Have I not said that womanhood involves all ?
Have I not told how the universe has nothing better than the
best womanhood ?



RESPONDEZ !

First published in 1856 under title of "Poem of the Proposition of Nakedness ;" in 1860 as
No. 5, "Chants Democratic ;" in 1867 '70 under this title.

RESPONDEZ ! Respondez !

(The war is completed—the price is paid—the title is settled
beyond recall ;)¹

Let every one answer ! let those who sleep be waked ! let none
evade !²

Must we still go on with our affectations and sneaking ?³

Let me bring this to a close—I pronounce openly for a new dis-
tribution of roles ;⁴

Let that which stood in front go behind ! and let that which was
behind advance to the front and speak ;

Let murderers, bigots, fools, unclean persons, offer new propo-
sitions !

¹ Line 2 added in 1870.

² 1856 '60 add "not you any more than others."

³ Line 4 added in 1860, which reads "If it really be as is pretended how
much longer must we go on," etc. 1867 reads "How much longer must
we go on," etc.

⁴ Line 5 added in 1860.