

I WISH

I wish that he were here once more,
To see him smile, to clasp his hand,
To hear him say a thousand things
That he and I would understand.

I wish, sometimes, for but one glance
At his strong face which smiles for me
When in my dreams all distance melts
And back he comes o'er land and sea.

I wish that we walked side by side,
As we oft did at setting sun,
And talked of future happy days
Nor dreamt of wars that must be won.

I wish that in some hard fought game
I watched him play with heart of pride;
And caught a glimpse of flashing eye
Quick moving feet and powerful stride.

I wish, ah, yes! I wish all this,
For I'm a woman weak of heart,
And yet I let him go away!
Away to play a strong man's part.

And Tho' I wish all this, yet, still,
I wish him there where duty lies,
Where honor crowns his sunny head
And brave men march 'neath foreign skies.