OW often have we risen without daylight When the day star was hidden in mist,

When the dragon-fly was heavy with dew and sleep,

And viewed the miracle pre-eminent, matchless,

The prelusive light that quickens the morning.

O crystal dawn how shall we distill your virginal freshness

When you steal upon a land that man has not sullied with his intrusion,

When the aboriginal shy dwellers in the broad solitudes

Are asleep in their innumerable dens and night haunts

Amid the dry ferns, in the tender nests

Pressed into shape by the breasts of the Mother birds?

How shall we simulate the thrill of announcement

When lake after lake lingering in the starlight

Turn their faces towards you,

And are caressed with the salutation of colour?

How shall we transmit in tendril-like images, The tenuous tremour in the tissues of ether,