The skilful artist hand.
The sun and stars may tell of, how
Through storm and heat and cold,
Inwrought by earnest toiling, lines
Of symmetry unfold.

Ornate, but deathly cheerless? nay
Leave blossoms everywhere
Whose living breath of fragrance shall
Inspire the silent air;
The beautiful, the brilliant bring,
If they be chaste and true,
For grace and beauty aye may find
A mighty work to do.

And have ye sought for treasures, as
The miner toils for gold
Amid the vales and mountains, o'er
The strand and rock and wold?
Not at the miser's seeking, be
Your quest of soul and brain,
But build and gather ever that
Ye may bestow again.

This Building of the earthly life,
A mansion fair may be,
After the Master-builder hath
Been borne across the sea.
The store of garnered treasures, may
A blessing be, untold,
To others, when his feet shall walk
The streets of burnished gold.

Be active, O ye builders! for
Who can foretell the day,
When over yonder waters, will
Each shallop speed away
When thine no more, this dwelling, aye
To many may it he
A treasure-home, thy Palace by
The wide unfathomed sea.