

XV.

One day I left him working on the claim,
 I had to buy supplies down at the Bar,
 When passing by the dance-hall Alcazar,
 Topmost on its board I read a name,
 " Beulah, the Singing Girl " ! The lesser lights,
 The Dogans, with Obesity in tights,
 And the boneless Acrobat—same old game—
 'Twas not for them I stay'd, nor clownish sights,
 But I wanted to hear a song—a song to make
 The feel of younger days come back until my heart
 shor'd ache.

XVI.

Something went wrong with me that night, I know ;
 And yet 'fore God I would not set it right
 For all the North and all its gold in sight !
 White she was all over, like the snow
 That on the glacier in the moonlight lies,
 And lissome as a panther when it spies
 Its quarry where the forest branches low ;
 But the luring of her deep-illumin'd eyes,
 And voice voluptuous with all desire,
 And somewhat else beyond all that fair set my soul
 on fire.

XVII.

For Beulah sang a ballad to me then,
 Of perilous tune, so put to velvet rime,
 'Twas sure the kind that sirens in old time
 Sang from the weedy rocks to sailor-men ;