

A thousand torches throw their glare,  
A thousand goblets gleam,  
A thousand guests are waiting there  
To banquet with the King.

To-night with pomp of chivalry,  
The feast doth Arza dight;  
And Israel's monarch deigns to be  
His vassal's guest to-night.

Speeds on the feast—withiu, around,  
The flagons flow amain;  
The cymbal's clash, the trumpet's sound  
Wakes high the festal strain.

The reeling nobles raise the shout,  
The King! the King all hail!"  
The monarch pours libations out  
To Ashtaroth or Baal.

What rocks he that Hasmani's son  
Denounced Ahijah's line?  
Ah, tell it not in Askalon,  
The King is drunk with wine.

No warder wakes on Tirzah's walls,  
Her gates stand open wide;  
The war steeds slumber in their stalls,  
The shields are thrown aside.

Unallied, a chief is passing on,  
Unchallenged mid the rowa;  
A dagger glances by the throne—  
The King lies in his blood.

Ho! Arza, up and guard thy Lord,  
City treason—lift the spear;  
Ho! princes, nobles, draw the sword—  
Ye stand in doubt and fear.

The wine-cup triumphs, Eiah dies,  
The drunkard's doom is won;  
Baasha's heir unshrouded lies,  
And Zimri mounts the throne.

Again the brazen trumpet's sound,  
Again the minstrels sing;  
The knee is bent, the shout goes round,  
"God save our lord the king."

#### THE TRIAL OF THE RECHABITES.

JEREMIAH, CHAP. XXXV.

The chamber of Hanan—the guests are all  
met,  
The wine-pots and flagons in order are set;  
And the prophet stands forth the command  
to enjoin,  
"Ye children of Rechab, I bid you drink wine."

How lofty their bearing, how noble their  
mien,  
The heirs of a monarch these shepherds might  
seem;  
They pause not to parley, nor blush to con-  
fess,

"No wine for the children of Jonadab's race.  
Our father commanded; no houses have ye,  
Your home be the land where the roebuck  
roams free;  
Nor trace ye the furrow, nor train ye the vine;  
We build not, we sow not, we will not drink  
wine.

Did Jonadab deem it the basilisk's lair,

And point to to the wine-cup, and bid us be  
ware?

Or promise our days in the land should be  
more,

With the wild fowl's drink than the wine-  
drinker's store?

And shall we, his children, his counsel con-  
temn,

And barter our birthright for bondage and  
shame?

The youth in his spring-time, the babe at the  
breast,

The maid and the matron obey the behest;  
The wave of the Jordan o'er Carmel shall  
flow,

Ere we pass from the precept we fearless  
avow.

The Chaldee has swept o'er the land like a  
flood,

And the wolf and the vulture are batt'ling in  
blood,

We fled from the invoad we might not repel,  
And to-day, in the city, as strangers we dwell;

To-morrow the star of Chaldea may wane;  
Away to the forest and freedom again."

The doom of Judea the seer has denounc'd,  
Now hear ye the boon which obedience has  
won;

Their fame who the wine cup have loath'd  
and renounc'd,

Shall last while the tide of existence doth run,  
"While nations shall rise, and shall flourish,  
and then

The sites of their cities be sought for in vain;  
While the sun holds his course and the world  
doth stand,

The Rechabite never shall cease from the  
land."

Sound, sound the loud trumpet, go forth and  
proclaim,

The heirs of the promise, still true to their  
fame;

Away in the desert, the Arab can tell,  
Preserved from contagion, the wineless still  
dwell;

The nations have passed as the waves o'er the  
strand,

But the children of Rechab still dwell in the  
land.

#### THE DEFEAT OF BENHADAD.

2 KINGS, CHAP. XX.

Look forth where the camp of the heathen is  
spread,

Like the sheaves on the fallow when harvest  
has sped,

The sun has uprisen—ere yet he be low,

As the sheaves when out-rotten that proud  
host will show.

Again the pavilions are decked for the feast,  
And the warrior kings 'neath their canopies  
rest,

And the pipe and the viol are pouring their  
strain,

And Benhadad presides at the banquet again.  
They fill the rich chalice, they quaff the full  
cup,

Who waits for the revel till Dian be up?