

My lord's own favourite cup you have concealed  
Within your pack, to do him injury,  
For all the good he hath on you bestowed !"  
But quick they cried, " Nay ! Nay ! let God be judge  
That we are innocent of such a charge,  
And he with whom the Prince's cup is found,  
Shall surely die and we shall be his slaves !"  
Thus, rashly spake the sons of Israel,  
And all their sacks were searched from first to last,  
When Benjamin's contained the fated cup.  
'Twas all in vain he pled his innocence,  
And begged his stricken brethren for redress,  
The oath they gave, now bound them firmly fast,  
And all surprised, dumb-founded, rent their clothes,  
Then cursed themselves the day that gave them birth,  
But turned unto the city once again,  
With spirits bowed with shame and slavish dread,  
And all bewildered at the actions strange  
Of Egypt's Prince, they to him quick appealed.

#### IV.

Thus Joseph had by many wise intrigues,  
His own identity concealed that he  
Their character might prove, and bring them to  
A knowledge of their crime 'gainst him and Heaven,  
And to them all reveal the Hand of God ;  
Which though they had determined ill and shame,  
Was mightily displayed to grant them life.  
When Joseph with a dignifying mien,