



— The Silver Refiner —

“ He shall sit refining and cleansing the silver. ” — 3 MAL.



READ a quaint expression
In the pages of Holy Writ,
How the Lord, o'er the souls of His people,
As a Silver Refiner shall sit.

And musing one day o'er the meaning
That lay hid in those words divine,
I sought out an Artificer,
Who wrought in the metals fine.

And I asked him to tell me the process
Of refining the silver and gold,
And whether he *sat* while discerning
The pure from the baser mould.

“ I *sit* while refining the silver,
To *watch* with a tenderer care,
And temper the heat of the furnace
To the metal enclosed there.

“ For though not one pang of the burning
May be spared to that precious clay,
A moment *too long* in the fire,
And its beauty would fade away. ”