

For I that danced her on my knee,
That watch'd her on her nurse's arm,
That shielded all her life from harm
At last must part with her to thee ;

Now waiting to be made a wife,
Her feet, my darling, on the dead ;
Their pensive tablets round her head,
And the most living words of life

Breathed in her ear. The ring is on,
The " wilt thou " answer'd, and again
The " wilt thou " ask'd, till out of twain
Her sweet " I will " has made ye one.

Now sign your names, which shall be read,
'Mute symbols of a joyful morn,
By village eyes as yet unborn ;
The names are sign'd, and overhead