

A LIFE

I.

LET us rise up and live ! Behold, each thing
Is ready for the moulding of our hand.
Long have they all awaited our command ;
None other will they ever own for king.
Until we come no bird dare try to sing,
Nor any sea its power may understand ;
No buds are on the trees ; in every land
Year asketh year some tidings of some Spring.
Yea, it is time, — high time we were awake !
Simple indeed shall life be unto us.
What part is ours ? — To take what all things give ;
To feel the whole world growing for our sake ;
To have sure knowledge of the marvellous ;
To laugh and love. — *Let us rise up and live !*

II.

LET us rule well and long. We will build here
Our city in the pathway of the sun.
On this side shall this mighty river run ;
Along its course well-laden ships shall steer.
Beyond, great mountains shall their crests uprear,
That from their sides our jewels may be won.
Let all you toil ! Behold, it is well done ;
Under our sway all far things fall and near !
All time is ours ! *Let us rule long and well !*
So we have reigned for many a long, long day.
No change can come. . . . What hath that slave to tell,
Who dares to stop us on our royal way ?
“ O King, last night within thy garden fell,
From thine own tree, a rose whose leaves were gray.”