

SOME ONE COMES.

I.

Some one comes—I hear a footstep—
See the shadows cast
At my lonely door that trembles
In the bitter blast!
Some one comes!—or is it fancy,
Or a friend at last?

II.

“I am Wealth, and I can give thee
Gold that men adore,
Friends and smiles and boon companions
Joyous as of yore!”
Fool! Can'st call me back from Hades,
Vanished youth once more!

III.

“I am Love—with years that vanish
Young and still the same,”—
Still, as when in Southern sunshine
First the phantom came?
A fond, false word long unspoken,—
A forgotten name!

IV.

“Open quick—the winter snow-flakes
Flicker slowly by—
Night is fleeting and the ghostly
New-year's morn draws nigh;
Shelter me—no corpse is colder
In the grave than I.”

V.

“I am Youth—Hope—the most precious
Of God's gifts.” Pass on.
“Fame—the meed of an eternal
Singer's guerdon won.”
Fool! One thing alone I needed,—
A true heart,—'tis gone.