

THE CAVE MAN

In what rude age remote from one of gold
Found man the wide significance of fire?
Then only did the guttural tones aspire
To speak that Word which from the days of old
Till now hath all our finite yearnings told.
He stands to bridge the gulf 'twixt drum and lyre,
Caves and the domes of Babylon and Tyre,
Who first saw in the flame God's garment-fold.

Is not he Christ, who leaps a thousand years—
Gains for his comrades one more steep ascent
Upon the path of progress? Therefore, hail
To all earth's glad, undaunted pioneers!
Tortured and slain for Truth, theirs the content
Of knowing that through them she must prevail.