FOR AYE

No ladders I need, when besieging a fort— To shiver the chains of a drawbridge is sport— Like a catapult formed of invincible brass I crumble high towers in one ruinous mass, And I wrestle, as 'twere, with the walls of a town, Till its moats are filled up with the ramparts pulled down.

But, Warriors! the day will arrive, when at length I must follow my victims, despoiled of my strength, Oh! leave not my corpse as a banquet for crows, Let my sepulchre be the Alps' loftiest snows, That strangers, who gaze on each far-soaring peak, What mountain my tomb is may wondering seek!

FOR AYE.

(From an Elegy by Sully Prudhomme.)

Here, lilacs wilt beneath the blast And short-lived song-birds cease their lay; I dream of summers that will last For aye.

Here, lips to velvet lips cling fast, But the shared rapture dies away; I dream of kisses that will last For aye.

Here mortals weep o'er friendships past, And fitful loves that had their day: I dream of unions that will last For aye.