

THE TEMPORARY THE ALL

Change and chancefulness in my flowering youthtime,
Set me sun by sun near to one unchosen;
Wrought us fellow-like, and despite divergence,
 Friends interlinked us.

"Cherish him can I while the true one forthcome -
Come the rich fulfiller of my prevision;
Life is roomy yet, and the odds unbounded."
 So self-communed I.

Thwart my wistful way did a damsel saunter,
Fair, the while unformed to be all-eclipsing;
"Maiden meet," held I, "till arise my forefelt
 Wonder of women."

Long a visioned hermitage deep desiring,
Tenements uncouth I was fain to house in;
"Let such lodging be for a breath-while," thought I,
 "Soon a more seemly.

"Then, high handiwork will I make my life-deed,

Truth and Light outshow; but the ripe time pending,
Intermissive aim at the thing sufficeth."

Thus I . . . But lo, me!

Mistress, friend, place, aims to be bettered straightway,

Bettered not has Fate or my hand's achieving;

Sole the showance those of my onward earth-track -

Never transcended!