

The Wounded Soldier to his Bride.

1.  
"I loved thee first, my Darling,  
"When the heart of youth was warm,  
"And each happy hour endor'd thee,  
"With some new and sweet charm;  
"And the moments floated o'er me,  
"As I watch'd Louis dancing beam,  
"And thy whisper'd low-~~er~~ <sup>and</sup> thrill'd,  
"Like the music of a dream.

2.  
"Then, the days seem'd wing'd angels,  
"Sent to bring me only joy;  
"And the sights were gems of Eden  
"Without shadow of alloy;  
"For, the eures of life reflect'd,  
"But the sunlight of thy love;  
"And the goodness of the Father,  
"Who e'er watcheth from above.

3  
"And the years, almost unheeded,  
"Passed on, in their mystic flight,  
"For, to each, thy kind love added,  
"Came before unknown, delight,  
"Till I stood on Grantham's threshold,  
"Ready for the toils of life,  
"Waiting for the blissful moment,  
"When my lips should whisper - 'Wife!'"

4  
Then ~~the~~ <sup>there</sup> came, a dreadful shadow  
"Clouding all our peaceful land.  
"One embrace - thy white lips, unheeded -  
"Go! thy country needs thy hand!"  
"On swept wars fearful tempest  
"Stricken by its power I cried  
"I wish, to the Father,  
"I would, I would that I had died!"  
Next page

5  
"Get one look - ere coming darkness  
"Hides the face I love so well  
"Thou art smiling yet upon me!  
"Kiss me! - Good night - Isabel!"  
And the surgeon found him sleeping  
"Calmly, on the bloody field,  
"Pressing still the senses quiet,  
"Unto lips, which death had sealed!"

5  
"And then came, thy love, my darling,  
"With <sup>its</sup> tender, holy spell,  
"And <sup>it</sup> saved me from the ~~fall~~ <sup>fall</sup>  
"That <sup>was</sup> my spirit fell."

+ + + +  
+ + + +  
+ + + +

6  
"We were wedded  
"I wedded thee when wars wild tumult  
"Filled each soul with dire alarms,  
"And I could not stay to exchange  
"Letters by thy clinging arms  
"For a soldier's duty called me,  
"To the scene of toil and strife;  
"And thy patriot-love was stronger  
"Than the yearning of the wife."

7  
"And now, upon the field of conflict -  
"While the light of setting day,  
"Casts its farewell glances faintly  
"O'er the victims of the fray,"

"Lighting eyes which seem appalling."

"To the darkening sky in vain,

"For the dawn which shall give them  
Back the light of life again;

"Here, beside his fearful altar,

"Where his sacrifices bleed;

"I would thank thee for the memories,

"Which my loving heart hath fed;

"For I love the better, ~~the~~ Darling,

"Than when peaceful summer's night

"And the glancing meteor saw me

"Pledge ~~to thee my~~ low plight."  
my youthful

+ + + + +

9 "Written in the field where our adorning

"What is this? I am not fighting!  
forces" ~~of the~~ enemy July 9 - 1861 and  
as the darkness came so quick!

Wrote them by night after considerable loss on  
both sides. I send it to you wife just as it  
was written - with all the imperfections in it.

"But he said there was no danger,  
I do not consider the greater part of it as

"That" covered over not seen;  
knowing any merit whatever except that of

sincerity. It is a mere column of paper except  
it as such "And would soon again be here."

Your husband  
Albion

THE WOUNDED SOLDIER IN HIS BED

I loved thee first, my Darling,  
When the heart of youth was warm,  
And each happy hour endowed thee,  
With some new and sweeter charm;  
And the moments floated o'er me,  
As I watched Love's dawning beam,  
And thy whispered love-words thrilled me,  
Like the music of a dream.

When the days were ringed with bliss,  
Sent to bring me only joy,  
And the nights were gems of Eden,  
Without shadow of alloy,  
For the cares of life reflected --  
But the sunlight of thy love,  
And the goodness of the Father,  
Who e'er watcheth from above.

And the years almost unheeded,  
Passed me in their mystic flight,  
For to each they dear love's pleasure added,  
Some before unknown delight,  
Till I stood on Manhood's threshold,  
Ready for the toils of life,  
Waiting for the blissful moment,  
When my lips should whisper, "Wife!"

*Awful*

Then there came a sudden shadow,  
That struck my heart with pain,  
And I saw the world was changed,  
And my country needs were vain,  
And my loved one was no more,  
And my heart was torn in twain,  
And my life was but a dream,  
And my soul was in a pain.

And then came my love's darling,  
With the tenderest smile,  
And I heard her from the night,  
And my heart was once again,  
And my life was but a dream,  
And my soul was in a pain.

We were wedded when the world was  
Filled with peace and love,  
For the moment that I longed,  
Fetter'd by the clinging arms,  
For a soldier's duty called me,  
To the field of toil and strife,  
And thy patriot-love was stronger,  
Than the yearnings of the wife.

Now, upon the field of conflict,  
While the light of setting day,  
Cast its farewell glances faintly,  
On the victims of the fray,  
Lighting eyes which seem appealing,  
To the darkening sky in vain,  
For the dawning which shall give them  
Back the light of life again.

Here beside War's fearful altar,  
Where his sacrifices bleed,  
I would thank thee for the memories  
Which my fainting spirit feed,  
For I love thee better, darling,  
Than when peaceful Summer's night,  
And the flaming meteor saw me,  
Plunge my youthful lover's plight.

What is this? I am not fainting,  
Has the darkness come to quicken,  
And my brain is growing clear,  
And the world is giving thanks,  
But he who once was my darling,  
Is no more, and I am left,  
That I can see the sunset light,  
And my heart is in a pain.

Yet my love's darling, darling,  
With the tenderest smile,  
And I heard her from the night,  
And my heart was once again,  
And my life was but a dream,  
And my soul was in a pain.