THE OPEN COURT.

Wouldest thou learn the world to know;  
Thou must tempt the dark abyss  
Wouldest thou life's deep meaning wis.

"Nought but firmness gains the prize,—  
Nought but fulness makes us wise,—  
Buried deep, truth ever lies!"

Light and Warmth.

"The world, a man of noble mind  
With glad reliance enters;  
Around him spread, he hopes to find  
What in his bosom centers;  
And to truth's cause, with ardor warm,  
He dedicates his trusty arm.

"But that the world is mean, ere long  
Experience shows him ever;  
Himself to guard amid the throng  
Is now his sole endeavor.  
His heart, in calm and proud repose,  
Soon e'en to love begins to close.

"The rays of truth, though light-bestowing,  
Not always warmth impart;  
Blest he who gains the boon of knowing  
Nor buys it with his heart!  
So thou shouldst worldling's ken unite  
To the idealist's vision bright."

The Lay of the Bell.

"Firmly bound the mould of clay  
In its dungeon-walls doth stand.  
Born shall be the bell to-day!  
Comrades, up! now be at hand!  
From the brows of all  
Must the sweat-drops fall;  
Ere in his work the master live;  
The blessing God alone can give.

"To what we earnestly prepare  
Now may an earnest word be said;  
When good discourse our labors share  
Then merrily the work is sped.  
Let us consider then with zeal  
What feeble strength can do by thought;  
Contempt for him we e'er must feel  
Who planned not what his hands have wrought.