

## DUMB!

GABRIEL whispered in mine ear  
His archangelic poesie.  
How can I write? I only hear  
The sobbing murmur of the sea.

Raphael breathed and bade me pass  
His rapt evangel to mankind;  
I cannot even match, alas!  
The ululation of the wind.

The gross grey gods like gargoyles spit  
On every poet's holy head;  
No mustard-seed of truth or wit  
In those curst furrows, quick or dead!

A tithe of what I know would cleanse  
The leprosy of earth; and I—  
My limits are like other men's.  
I must live dumb, and dumb must die!