

CAIN ET ABEL.

I.

SEED of Abel, eat, drink, sleep!
God shall smile complaisantly.
Seed of Cain, in the muck-heap
Crawl and miserably die!

Seed of Abel, thine oblation
Sweet to Seraphim doth smell:
Seed of Cain, shall thy damnation
Ever find the bounds of Hell?

Race of Abel, see thy seed
And thy cattle flourish more!
Race of Cain, for hunger's need,
Like a dog thy bowels roar.

Seed of Abel, warm thy paunch
At the patriarchal hall!
Seed of Cain, on shivering haunch
Squat in cave, despised jackal!

Seed of Abel, love and swarm!
So thy gold shall also grow.
Seed of Cain, heart over-warm,
Guard thy lust and crush it low!

Seed of Abel, grow, well-faring
Like the bugs in forest beats!
Seed of Cain, at bay, despairing,
Throw thy children on the streets!

II.

Seed of Abel, carrion
 Shall make fat the smoking soil.
Seed of Cain, on thee has none
 Laid sufficient woes of toil.

Seed of Abel, this thy shame—
 To the boar-spear yields the sword.
Seed of Cain, to heaven flame,
 And to earth cast Heaven's Lord!