Let politicians henceforth cease to try us
With questions of discussion & debate.
For the whole country now from Maine to Texas,
Has learned 'tis better far to love than hate.

This boasted age of progress & invention.
In this our saddest day of war's alarms.
With closest scrutiny & strict attention,
Has brought us nothing new, at least in arms.

They talk of "Armistices," "Parrots," & invaders,
But all their arms, I wish mankind peace-persuaders,
Cannot make Love, although they may make union.

The best artillery is found to be the oldest.
And Peace hath conquers too, by no means narrow.
The wisest soldiers, & purchase the boldest.
Yields to a pair of blue eyes, and a bow & arrow.

Written May 24, 1866; I escorted by E. H. S. on reconnoitre
General H's surrender.