

## 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 !