

She has a world of ready wealth,  
Our minds and hearts to bless -  
Spontaneous wisdom breathed by health,  
Truth breathed by cheerfulness.

20

One impulse from a vernal wood  
May teach you more of man;  
Of moral evil and of good,  
Than all the sages can.

Sweet is the lore which nature brings;  
Our meddling intellect  
Mishapes the beauteous forms of things;  
- We murder to dissect.

Enough of science and of art;  
Close up these barren leaves;  
Come forth, and bring with you a heart  
That watches and receives.

30

### *Old Man Travelling;*

ANIMAL TRANQUILLITY AND DECAY,

A SKETCH

The little hedge-row birds,  
That peck along the road, regard him not.  
He travels on, and in his face, his step,  
His gait, is one expression; every limb,  
His look and bending figure, all bespeak  
A man who does not move with pain, but moves  
With thought - He is insensibly subdued

Title: In 1800 the sub-title was made the title and the words "Old Man Travelling" discarded.

True consciousness in  
unconsciousness

To settled quiet: he is one by whom  
All effort seems forgotten, one to whom  
Long patience has such mild composure given,  
That patience now doth seem a thing, of which  
He hath no need. He is by nature led  
To peace so perfect, that the young behold  
With envy, what the old man hardly feels.  
- I asked him whither he was bound, and what  
The object of his journey; he replied  
"Sir! I am going many miles to take  
"A last leave of my son, a mariner,  
"Who from a sea-fight has been brought to  
Falmouth,  
And there is dying in an hospital." 20

17-20. That he was going many miles to take  
A last leave of his son, a mariner,  
Who from a sea-fight had been brought to Falmouth,  
And there was lying in an hospital. [1800].  
(20). lying [dying [1802]].  
15-20. om. [1815].