

Title used by permission of Will Carleton, author of "Farm Ballads."







- 4 Oh, children! loved children! yet hear me,
 I have journeyed along on life's stage;
 With the hope that you all would be near me,
 To comfort and cheer my old age:
 My life-blood I'd gladly have given,
 To shield and protect you! but hark!
 Though my heart breaks, I'll say it's you've driven
 Me out here to die in the dark.—Cho.
- 5 But, perhaps, they'll live happier without me;
 Farewell, dear old home, ah! farewell,
 Each pathway and tree here about me,
 Some memory precious can tell:
 Well! the flowers will bloom bright as ever,
 And the birds sing as sweet to the morn;
 Then over the hill from the poor house,
 Next Spring the old man shall be borne.—Cho.

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