

TO JOSEPH JEFFERSON, OCTOBER 25, 1895.

Dear laughter-smith ! Coiner of golden pleasures !
Kind master of the craft that Care beguiles !
For all those moments bright, that Memory treasures,
We've thanked you with the tribute of our smiles.

O excellent magician, deep-divining
The hidden springs of pity, sweet and clear,
How oft, while yet the sun of mirth was shining,
We've thanked you with the tribute of a tear !

O gentlest friend ! In this fair hour of meeting,
To you, unmasked of feignéd names and parts,
A thousandfold we give our grateful greeting,
The willing tribute of our hands and hearts !

HELEN GRAY CONE.