Poems

The Blue & the Gray

No 42

Subject

The Blue & the Gray

42

The Blue and The Gray.

1st

By the flow of the inland river,
Whence the fleets of iron have fled,
Where the blades of the grave-grass quiver
Asleep are the ranks of the dead;—
Under the sod and the dew
Waiting the judgement day;—
Under the one the Blue,
Under the other the Gray.

26.

There in the robings of glory.
There in the gloom of defeat,
All with the battle-blood gory,
In the dusk of eternity meet;-
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgement day;-
Under the laurel the Blue
Under the willow the Gray.

35

From the silence of sorrowful hours
The desolate mourners go,
Lovingly laden with flowers
Alike for the friend and the foe;-
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day;-
Under the roses the Blue;
Under the lillies the Gray.

4 Fr.

So with an equal splendor
The morning sun-rays fall,
With a touch impartially tender,
On the blossoms blooming for all;-
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day;
Broidered with gold the Blue
Mellowed with gold the Gray.

67h

So, when the summer calleth,
On forest and field of grain
With an equal murmur falleth
The cooling drip of the rain;-
Under the sod and the dew,
Waiting the judgment day;-
Wet with the rain the Lilies-
Wet with the rain the Gray.

6th

Sadly, but not with upbraiding,
The generous deed was done;-
In the storm of the years that are fading,
No braver battle was won;-
Under the sod and the dew;-
Waiting the judgment day,
Under the blossoms the Blue;
Under the garlands the Gray.

7th

No more shall the war cry sever
Or the winding rivers be red
They banish our anger forever
When they laurel the graves of our dead
Under the sod and the dew
Waiting the judgment day
Love and Tears for the Blue
Tears and love for the Gray

The end.

Gen. O. O. Howard.

New York —

Please give this to some one who will read it before an audience on Memorial day. I want it to be read.

Yours Sincerely

John M. Hoover