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Of A Daughter... stillborn

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Cover Page Footnote

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Of A Daughter . . . *stillborn**

O God
Why she?
Who never even saw the light of dawning gray
Nor heard the robin greet the new-born day
Who never felt the warmth of June
Nor broke the dying night with startled tune
That trumps the infant's safe arrival there . . .
Nor smelled but one brief breath of air . . .
Why she
O God?

Do you give the sot and harlot hope
And offer paradise to those who grope
In vice and shame their life's long day
And only in their dying gasp do say
Their sorrow, steeped in sin and mire . . .
Do you wash them clean who but desire
You in the end, sin's joy run dry
And death's icy stillness frosting up the eye?

Will she
Unwashed of Adam's sin
Never be
Allowed to enter in?

Or are there
'More things in heaven, O God,
Than are dreamt of in our theology?

CLARENCE A. AMANN

*and only conditionally baptized by the attending doctor.