

(editor's note: This paper was transcribed from a handwritten cursive copy with various difficulties. For a perfect rendition, the reader might wish to consult the original, itself a copy, in the volume entitled *Literary Club Papers*, Dec 20, 1890 to May 30, 1891)

A Diagrammatic Poem

The following poem cannot be read with the eyes shut – it appeals directly to the special sense of sight for its interpretation. The wildest efforts of the imagination would fail in its proper comprehension if restricted to the use of the ear-sight alone. This poem is unique in that it has to be seen rather than felt. Whether this characteristic raises it above the plane of mediocrity depends altogether upon each individual's poetic susceptibility, in fact it is “all in your eye” whether you consider it to be a poem or a mere jingle of idle words. To put this matter to the test this production will first be read for the ear alone, then read with it Diagrammatic attachment. This will constitute its 1st and 2nd edition and there is room for honest doubt as to the desirability of ever producing a 3rd

I was idle
Wrote an idyl
To my idol
Think me wild?
I, whilst idle
With this idyl,
Called my idol
Idlewild —

What an idyl
To this idol;
Sure twas wild;
Such an idyl
Done to Idol
Makes when idle
Idylwild —

Har my idol
When I'm idle
With its idyl
Makes me a wild;
Wild with idol
Wild with idyl
Wild when idle
Idolwild —

Dr. Walton

[No date – Feb 28, 1891?]