

Shiloh: A Requiem (April, 1862)

BY Herman Melville

(b New York 1819, d New York 1891)

Skimming lightly, wheeling still,
The swallows fly low
Over the field in clouded days,
The forest-field of Shiloh—
Over the field where April rain
Solaced the parched ones stretched in pain
Through the pause of night
That followed the Sunday fight
Around the church of Shiloh—
The church so lone, the log-built one,
That echoed to many a parting groan
And natural prayer
Of dying foemen mingled there—
Foemen at morn, but friends at eve—
Fame or country least their care:
(What like a bullet can undecieve!)
But now they lie low,
While over them the swallows skim,
And all is hushed at Shiloh.

Vocabulary

swallow – small songbird

hushed – quiet but not silent -

morn - morning

parched – very dry

solace – comfort

foeman - an enemy

mingled – mixed

lone – single, alone

undecieve – tell the truth

Shiloh: A Requiem (April, 1862)

BY Herman Melville

(b New York 1819, d New York 1891)

Skimming lightly, wheeling still,
The swallows fly low
Over the field in clouded days,
The forest-field of Shiloh—
Over the field where April rain
Solaced the parched ones stretched in pain
Through the pause of night
That followed the Sunday fight
Around the church of Shiloh—
The church so lone, the log-built one,
That echoed to many a parting groan
And natural prayer
Of dying foemen mingled there—
Foemen at morn, but friends at eve—
Fame or country least their care:
(What like a bullet can undecieve!)
But now they lie low,
While over them the swallows skim,
And all is hushed at Shiloh.

Vocabulary

swallow – small songbird

hushed – quiet but not silent -

morn - morning

parched – very dry

solace – comfort

foeman - an enemy

mingled – mixed

lone – single, alone

undecieve – tell the truth

Shiloh: A Requiem (April, 1862)

BY Herman Melville

(b New York 1819, d New York 1891)

Skimming lightly, wheeling still,
The swallows fly low
Over the field in clouded days,
The forest-field of Shiloh—
Over the field where April rain
Solaced the parched ones stretched in pain
Through the pause of night
That followed the Sunday fight
Around the church of Shiloh—
The church so lone, the log-built one,
That echoed to many a parting groan
And natural prayer
Of dying foemen mingled there—
Foemen at morn, but friends at eve—
Fame or country least their care:
(What like a bullet can undecieve!)
But now they lie low,
While over them the swallows skim,
And all is hushed at Shiloh.

Vocabulary

swallow – small songbird

hushed – quiet but not silent -

morn - morning

parched – very dry

solace – comfort

foeman - an enemy

mingled – mixed

lone – single, alone

undecieve – tell the truth