

But come, old greybeard, you must turn wise  
as Father Catz, who drew your picture, makes you  
do ; and tell us your conclusions upon your past  
experience.

“ I will go home and clean my hearth,  
And heart and house, and keep them sweet ;  
Then, come who will from all the earth,  
I'll set before him wholesome meat ;

“ And offering this to friend or guest,  
Or any man of honest mind,  
I'll set all troubled thoughts at rest,  
And let those grumble who're inclined.”

So be it : for the proverbs thicken around us.

“ He is indeed a knowing wight,  
Who thinks to set the whole world right.”

“ He who builds by the roadside has a good  
many advisers.”

“ Never saw I, all my days,  
One who'd everybody's praise.”

“ He needs a clever counsel who is summoned  
before the world's tribunal.”

