

In Life's Gay Dawn

Scottish Translations and Paraphrases, 1781.

James Wade, 1865.

In life's gay dawn, when sprightly youth

With vital ardor glows,

And shines in all the fairest charms

Which beauty can disclose;

Deep on thy soul, before its powers

Are yet by vice enslaved,

By thy creator's precious name

And character engraved.

For soon the shades of grief shall cloud

The sunshine of thy days,

And cares and ills, in endless round,

Encompass all thy ways.

Soon shall thy heart the woes of age

In mournful sighs deplore,

And sadly muse on former joys,

That now return no more.