Not Now

There's no other time
But the present time.
All that we have is the now.
Men mortgage their lives
To tasks they despise,
By two little words—"Not Now."

The joys of our life,
The pleasures of life,
Are joys and pleasures of now,
The blessings that flow,
Men miss as they go,
By two little words—"Not Now."

The burdens and strife
And struggles of life
Are weighted for time and now,
And many will sigh
In the bye and bye
Because of the words—"Not Now."

Ah, how many men
Are the might have been!
They look o'er the past, viewed now;
And say unto you,
"Riches fade from view
At the two little words—'Not Now'."

Temptations allure,
The snares we endure,
For lack of resistance now.
And headlong we go,
Toward the world below,
Because of the words—"Not Now."

No longer abide
By the siren's side
Who lures you from action now.
Arise in your might,
For the thing that's right,
And do what you ought—right now.

-R. A. Daly.