

We know quite well you may not get much thanks
 For asking questions about this or that ;
 And there are secrets about gaswork tanks
 That such as you may never well get at ;
 However, you've brought things to such a crisis,
 That I'm afraid they won't bear analysis.

It may suit some to sit with folded hands,
 And give their vote, not asking how or why—
 To nod obeisance at my Lord's commands,
 Content that such behaviour by-and-bye
 May very soon for them an office gain,
 Or place around their necks a Baillie's chain.

But thou art not inclined to tamely sit,
 And pass, unquestioned, this or that report,
 Content with bare assertions ; not a bit !
 You have, and do deserve, our best support,
 And shall retain it, aye until the end—
 At least so long as you shall prove a friend.

It is not meet that Council meetings should
 Be theatres of rancorous debate ;
 Because of such there would be little good,
 Where fools might sit, and there forever prate ;
 But party interests all should be forgot,
 Except the interests of the common lot.

'Tis true, a man who always wants to know
 Is termed a humbug by his Council fellows ;
 But very often to such men we owe
 Some snatches here and there none else would tell us.
 They act as guard on municipal train,
 Lest driver should a march upon us gain.