



How like this tree

How like this tree a family must be!
Its devotion to living so clearly we see...
Adding new branches as seasons go by
Shimmering 'neath sun and clouds in God's sky.

And 'lo that this limb did get weary and fall
In answer to nature's eventual call...
But others climbed higher to take up the space
While leaving the stump to remember its grace.

The arch, though fallen and seemingly gone,
Still thickens the trunk where once it held strong.
How like this tree a family must be!
Its devotion to living so clearly we see...

— Ian Hope