

Hellen Rinell

19 - 1949

She was born in good old Sweden  
More than thirty years ago,  
Her fond Mamma named her Hellen  
And the child began to grow.

Bright and good was little Hellen  
As she daily went to school,  
Always winsome and attractive,  
Always keeping every rule.

Early learned she of the Bible  
And the wondrous Gospel heard.  
Early gave her heart to Jesus,  
Loved to hear His blessed Word.

Such a lass so strong and winsome  
Strong in body, soul and mind,  
Caught the eye and heart of Oscar  
As he wanted wife to find.

Oscar, too, had much to offer,  
Not perhaps of gold and land  
But of values so much higher,  
Health and brain and virtue grand.

Hellen gave her all to Oscar,  
And he gave to her his heart.  
Parson tied them tight together  
So they never more would part.

Came the call to sail for China,  
To that land so great and hoary,  
Taking to the Chinese millions  
All the Gospels' blessed story.

Though they left their home and loved ones,  
Yet they had each other true,  
And they had the lasting comfort  
Of a wondrous task to do.

Now the years have run by swiftly  
Filled with work and joy and care,  
Always has our Birthday Hellen  
Been alert to do and bear.

Here today we join our voices  
To acclaim this Christian true,  
Giving hearty Birthday wishes  
With our prayers and blessing too.

So, dear Hellen, here we wish you  
All true joy at this glad time.  
May your strength be daily better,  
Better far than this poor rhyme.