Spring

The festive Spring has arrived, The birds celebrate her return with happy songs, And the brooks of the gentle Zephyrs With sweet murmurs flow, but,

The sky is covered in a dark mantle And lightning and thunfer announce a storm. When quiet returns, the birds Again take up their lovely songs.

And in the flower-rich meadow, To the gentle murmur of leaves and plants The goatherd sleeps, his faithful dog at his side.

To the merry sounds of a rustic bagpipe Nymphs and shepherds dance in their beloved spot When Spring appears in its brilliance.

Autumn

The peasant celebrates with song and dance The pleasure of the rich harvest, And full of the liquor of Bacchus They finish their merrymaking with a sleep.

All are made to leave off singing and dancing By the air which now mild gives pleasure And by the season which invited many To enjoy a sweet sleep.

At dawn the hunters With horns and guns and dogs leave their homes; The beast flees; they follow its traces.

Already terrified and tired by the great noise Of the guns and the dogs, and wounded it tries Feebly to escape, but exhausted dies.

Summer

Under the merciless sun Languishes man and flock; the pine tree burns, The cuckoo begins to sing and at once Join in the turtle doves and the goldfinch.

A gentle breeze blows, but Boreas Joins battle suddenly with his neighbour, And the shepherd weeps because overhead Hangs the dreaded storm, and his destiny.

His tired limbs are robbed of their rest By his fear of the lightning and the heavy thunder And by the furious swarm of flies and hornets.

Alas, his fears are well founded There is thunder and lightning in the sky And the hail cuts down the lofty ears of corn.

Winter

Frozen and shivering in the icy snow. In the strong blasts of a terrible wind To run stamping one's feet at every step With one's teeth chattering through the cold.

To spend the quiet and happy days by the fire Whilst outside the rain soaks everyone. To walk on the ice with slow steps And go carefully for fear of falling.

To go in haste, slide and fall down: To go again on the ice and run, Until the ice cracks and open.

To hear leaving their iron-gated house Sirocco, Boreas and all the winds in battle: This is winter, but it brings joy.