A Nation's Strength

Judy Davies

What makes a nation's pillars high?
And its foundations strong?
What makes it mighty to defy
The foes that round it throng.

---Emerson

What makes a nation's pillars high?
Who knows its heart and soul?
Why let rapacious corporate greed
Keep us from being whole?
Congress spouts promise with constant lie
It won't keep our nation's pillars high

And its foundations strong.
Rabid righters tromp our work force,
Withdrawing benefits as a matter of course—
Their power has prevailed far too long
With abuse of workers that's just plain wrong
And this won't keep its foundations strong.

What makes it mighty to defy?
Wall Street demands we absorb financial shock,
And open the coffers whenever they knock.
Why should we listen to lie after lie
Not exacting tooth for tooth, eye for eye?
They are not too mighty to defy.

The foes that round it throng
Await with greed at every gate
Expecting us to swallow their bait.
"Do as we say" is their song,
Their morals and direction wrong;
They are the foes that round it throng.