

HELMETS AND SHIELDS AND LONG SPEARS HELD TIGHT

Row upon row of long spears upright,
Of long spears carried----- straight and in sight,
Of dust clouds and drum beats,
Of helmets and shields and columns of Spartans
 with long spears held tight,
Long spears held in dare of death's plight,
A myriad of long spears held upright and tight,

And footsteps,
Bold as drum footsteps all keeping in time,
Drums and feet beating and competing and loud,
And dusts carried high in a heart pounding cloud,
Beating of footsteps and drumming heard clear,
Row upon row of Spartans marched near,

Hill after hill of long spears upright,
Of long spears carried----- straight and in sight,
Of dust clouds and drum beats,
Of helmets and shields and columns of Athenians
 with long spears held tight,
Long spears held in care of death's plight,
Ten thousand long spears held upright and tight,

And footsteps,
Bold as drum footsteps all keeping in time,
Drums and feet beating and repeating and loud,
And dusts carried high in a fast bounding cloud,
Beating of footsteps and drumming heard most,
Hill after hill of Athenians marched close,

Row upon row and hill after hill,
Of long spears carried upright, straight and in sight,
And the Spartans were near and the Athenians were close,
And mingled were the dust clouds and drum beats and helmets and shields,
And mingled were the long spears, lowered and held tight,
And then soon on the earth lay helmets and shields and a drum that was silent
 amongst long spears held tight.