

Стране открылся дальний путь на Запад,
бесхитростный, прямой и небывалый,
достойный путь - подстать самой стране.



The Gift Outright

The land was ours before we were the land's.
She was our land more than a hundred years
Before we were her people. She was ours
In Massachusetts, in Virginia,
But we were England's, still colonials,
Possessing what we still were unpossessed by,
Possessed by what we now no more possessed.
Something we were withholding made us weak
Until we found out that it was ourselves
We were withholding from our land of living,
And forthwith found salvation in surrender.
Such as we were we gave ourselves outright
(The deed of gift was many deeds of war)
To the land vaguely realizing westward,
But still unstoried, artless, unenhanced,
Such as she was, such as she would become.
(1936-1941) 1943 "A Witness Tree"

Примечание.

Стихотворение "The Gift Outright" известно в русских переводах М.Зенкевича и Алекса Грибанова. 20 января 1961 г. Роберт Фрост прочёл это стихотворение по памяти на торжественной инаугурации американского президента Джона Кеннеди, так как слепящее солнце помешало 87-летнему поэту прочесть по бумаге текст стихотворения, специально написанного к этому случаю. По отношению к коренному населению Америки это стихотворение считается некорректным.