## **HOPING**

I have not come like a shepherd,
Wit scared at night to offer help
With nothing but myself. I have
Come laden with this moment's cares —
Mem'ries of Christmas long ago —
Hoping THIS year will be happy,
That the meal will go well, people
Will get on — that the bereaved, the
Divorced and the jobless amongst
Us can, for one day, remember
The dangerous road Mary trod
To Bethlehem and the dark, dank
Stable where Christ was born and those
Among us who still have nothing.