

History's Stepping Stones

Early man split stone on stone
A sharp cutting edge of flint
Ready for swift mortal strike.
Harvest with serrated scythe
And fish with harpoon spear.

Friction with wood on wood
Would spark the magic flame.
Dry brittle tinder would light.
Now fire for winter warmth,
Clay pot for food to prepare.

Turning the simple spindle,
The wool and flax was spun
To braid, to bind or tether.
In weighted loom to weave
To make our clothes to wear.

The scratch on ostrich shell
Or indent on Orkney stone.
Scribed message on clay tablet,
Paintings on deep cave walls.
All thoughts for man to share.

All men working together
Mastering the rotating wheel
In grindstone, lathe or well.
Horsepower was now tamed
In levering the ploughshare.

Smelting in the hot furnace
Copper, tin, iron and gold
Metals forging our future.
All stepping stones for man.
Concepts trusted to our care.