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Courtesy of Bonnie Jean Bacon Feser (see cover sheet)

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'FETCHING WOOD'

I'VE OFTEN HEARD IT STATED

THAT FIREWOOD WARMS TWICE.

BUT TO MY CALCULATIONS

IT WARMS MORE THAN THRICE.

IT WARMS WHEN YOU CUT

A TREE FROM IT'S STUMP

AND AGAIN WHEN YOU BLOCK IT,

THEN YOUR HEART BEGINS TO PUMP.

AND AGAIN WHEN IT'S LOADED

IN THE OLD PICK-UP TRUCK.

IT'S ONLY LOADED ONCE, UNLESS

YOU HAVE BAD LUCK.

THEN, AFTER THE SHORT,

OR LONG RIDE TO YOUR HOME,

YOU CLIMB FROM THE TRUCK AND

FEELING STIFF JOINTS, YOU GROAN.

BUT THE JOB ISN'T FINISHED,

SO YOU DILIGENTLY PACK

EACH BLOCK TO THE WOODSHED

AND MAKE A NEAT STACK.

NOW, UP TO THIS POINT,

THE TIMES WARMED IS FOUR.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE TOTAL

BECAUSE IT WARMS TWICE MORE.

SOME BLOCKS ARE SO LARGE

THEY MUST BE SPLIT

WHEN INTO THE STOVE THEY GO

AND A FLAME IS 'LIT'.

NOW COMES THE BEST PART

AND THE SIXTH TIME IT WARMS

AS WE SIT IN A COZY HOME

WHILE OUTSIDE IT STORMS.

IT'S A FUN TIME FOR FAMILIES

AND ALL FOR THE GOOD

AND WORTH ALL THE TROUBLE

THE JOB OF 'FETCHING WOOD'.

...LAPRIEL BARTSCHI DUNFORD