

Et primum faciunt ignem se vortere in auras  
Aëris ; hinc imbrem gigni terramque creari  
Ex imbri ; retroque a terrâ cuncta revorti,  
Humorem primum, post aëra deinde calorem ;  
Nec cessare hæc inter se mutare, meare,  
De cælo ad terram de terrâ ad sidera mundi.

LUCRETIVS, i. 783.

Water, and Air, and Fire, alternate run  
Their endless circle, multiform, yet one. .  
For, moulded by the fervor's latent beams,  
Solids flow loose, and fluids flash to steams,  
And elemental flame, with secret force,  
Pursues through earth, air, sky, its stated course.