

Signs of life

**Still cold, but missing the snow,
a reversal of previous fortunes,
no Beast from the East,
just warmth from the West,
a preternatural Spring,
a forced start, seemingly too early,
but inevitably welcome
as turgor pressures thrust forth
new shoots, and leaves appear
our fears of frost damage seemingly unfounded,
we are grounded and dumbfounded by the green,
as new growth appears across the scene
and the stones once more shed their winter coats
to take on a verdant mantel,
funerary architecture gives way to Mother Nature
and the cycle begins again.**

FAMILY VAULT OF HENRY BEAR & HENRY B