## RULE IX — POETRY, SCANSION AND STRESS

## 32. Poetry:

**a. Verse Format:** Each poetic line should begin in the first space of a new line of braille. If a poetic line is too long for one braille line, the carry-over should begin in the third space of the next line. A blank line should be left before and after each stanza.

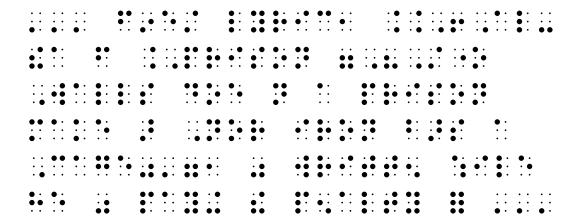
In the writing of poetry, if only the title and the first line of the poem (with its carry-over) would appear at the bottom of the braille page, the poem should begin on the next braille page.

If it is necessary to divide a stanza between two pages, the division should be made so that at least one poetic line (with its carry-over) appears at the top or bottom of the braille page, providing it is not the first stanza of the poem. (For special poetry format, see App. A. 2.)

## **b. Prose Format:**

(1) Line Sign: /: | . Use the line sign to represent the print mark which indicates the end of a poetic line, line of inscription, etc. When such are written in print in prose form, leave one blank cell preceding and following the line sign. The line sign may begin or end a braille line. List this sign on the special symbols page. (See App. A. 9.) Ex:

... finest lyric, <u>To Althea from Prison</u> ('Stone Walls doe not a prison make/Nor iron bars a Cage'), was written while he was paying the penalty for ...



16 They have mouths, and speak not: eyes have they, but they see not.
17 They have ears, and yet they hear not: neither is there any breath in their mouths.

- (2) When an agency or braille publisher requires poetry, inscriptions, etc., to be transcribed in braille using prose form, insert the line sign to indicate the end of each complete line or print line of poetry, inscription, etc. Indicate the change of print format in a Transcriber's Note. After the completion of the poetry, etc., begin the following text on a new braille line.
- **c. Numbered Lines:** For numbered lines, see *Braille Formats: Principles of Print to Braille Transcription*, most recent edition.
- **33. Scansion and Stress:** (See *Braille Formats: Principles of Print to Braille Transcription*, most recent edition.)

Short or unstressed syllable sign

Long or stressed syllable sign

**a.** These signs should be placed before the vowels of the syllables affected. Contractions should not be used in scansion where both stressed and unstressed syllables are shown. List these signs on the special symbols page. (See App. A. 9.) **Ex:** 

```
The curfew tolls

the knell of

parting day.

b. End of foot sign |

Caesura sign |

Caesura sign |

Tolls

Tolls
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These signs should be preceded and followed by a space. Where a foot sign occurs within a word, the hyphen, followed by a space, is used after the syllable ending the foot. Contractions may be used in scansion where stressed or unstressed syllables are not shown. List these signs on the special symbols page. (See App. A. 9.) Ex:

Still	stands	the	fo	rest	pri-		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	••	• • •		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • •	: : • •
meval,			the		murmuri	ing	
•	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•• ••	• •	: : ••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	· • · · ·
	pines	and the		hemle	ocks.		
: : • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • •	::	• • • • •		•• • · · • · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•••

c. Where detailed scansion is not required, the accent sign is used to indicate stressed syllables. Contractions may be used except where the stressed vowel is part of a contraction. List this sign on the special symbols page. (See App. A. 9.) Ex:

Still	stands	the	forest
	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• •	•• •• •• •• ••
_ primeval,		the	_ murmuring
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	••	•• •• •• •• •• •• •• •• •• •• •• •• ••
_ pines	and the		hemlocks.
• · · · • · • • · · • • · · • • · · · • · · · · • ·	••••		