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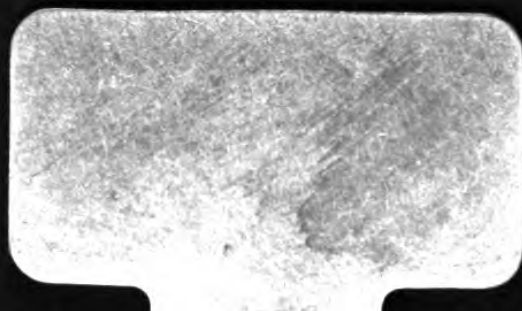


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Earl of Minto.





Darji Library

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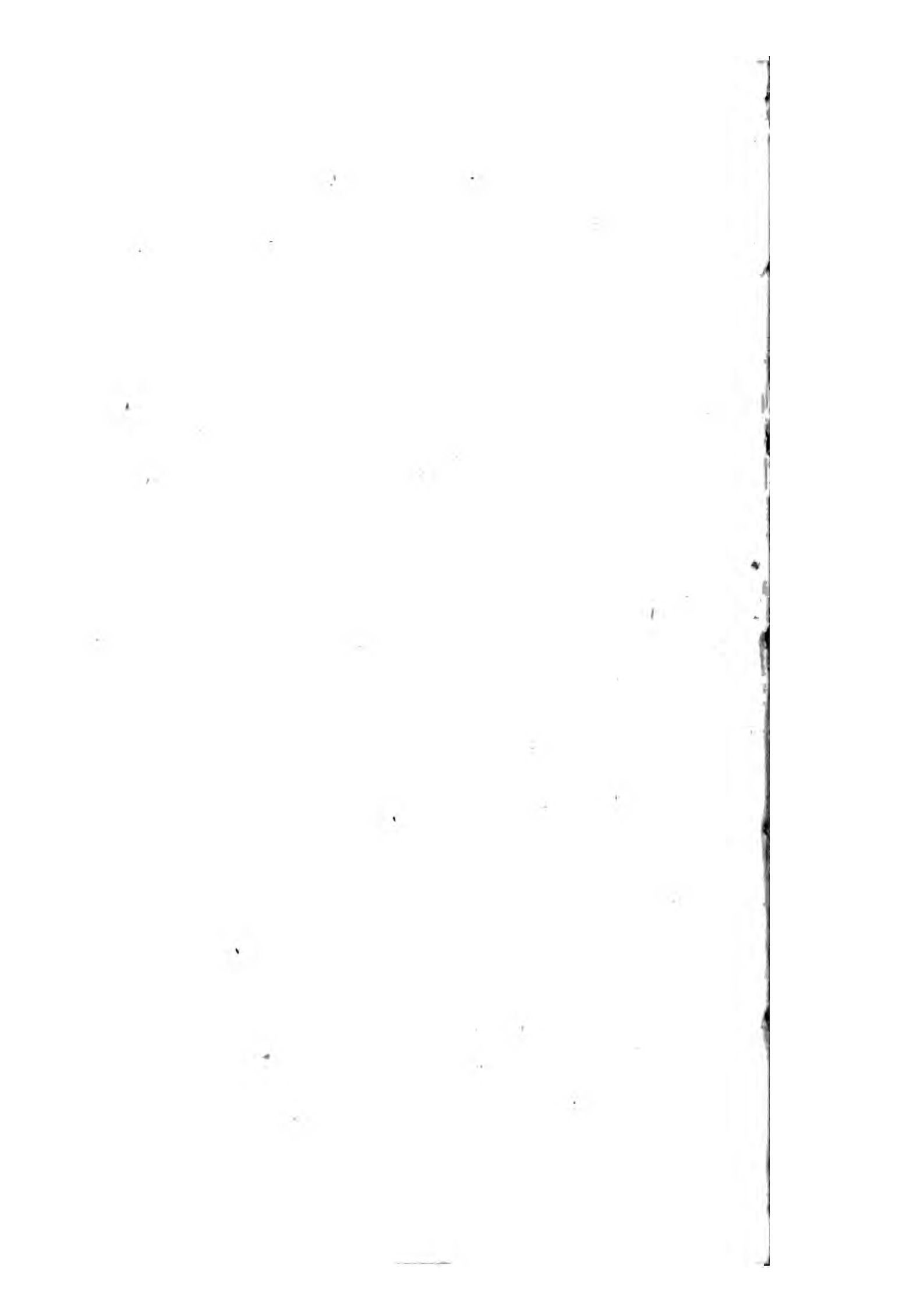
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£575/-



THE
PLEASURES OF HOPE;

WITH OTHER

P O E M S.

BY THOMAS CAMPBELL.

THE FIFTH EDITION,
Corrected and Enlarged.

EDINBURGH:

PRINTED FOR MUNDELL & SON,
AND FOR LONGMAN & REES, AND J. WRIGHT, LONDON.

1801.

To the Right Hon^{ble}
Lord Minto
From
the Author —



THE

PLEASURES OF HOPE;

PART FIRST.



ANALYSIS OF PART I.

THE Poem opens with a comparison between the beauty of remote objects in a landscape, and those ideal scenes of felicity which the imagination delights to contemplate.—The influence of anticipation upon the other passions is next delineated. An allusion is made to the well known fiction in Pagan tradition, that, when all the guardian deities of mankind abandoned the world, Hope alone was left behind.—The consolations of this passion in situations of danger and distress.—The seaman on his midnight watch.—The soldier marching into battle.—Allusion to the interesting adventures of Byron.

The inspiration of Hope, as it actuates the efforts of genius, whether in the department of science, or of taste.—Domestic felicity, how intimately connected with views of future happiness.—Picture of a mother watch-

ing her infant when asleep.—Pictures of the prisoner, the maniac, and the wanderer.

From the consolations of individual misery, a transition is made to prospects of political improvement in the future state of society.—The wide field that is yet open for the progress of humanizing arts among uncivilized nations.—From these views of amelioration of society, and the extension of liberty and truth over despotic and barbarous countries, by a melancholy contrast of ideas we are led to reflect upon the hard fate of a brave people recently conspicuous in their struggles for independence.—Description of the capture of Warsaw, of the last contest of the oppressors and the oppressed, and the massacre of the Polish Patriots at the bridge of Prague.—Apostrophe to the self-interested enemies of human improvement.—The wrongs of Africa.—The barbarous policy of Europeans in India.—Prophecy in the Hindoo mythology of the expected descent of the Deity, to redress the miseries of their race, and to take vengeance on the violators of justice and mercy.

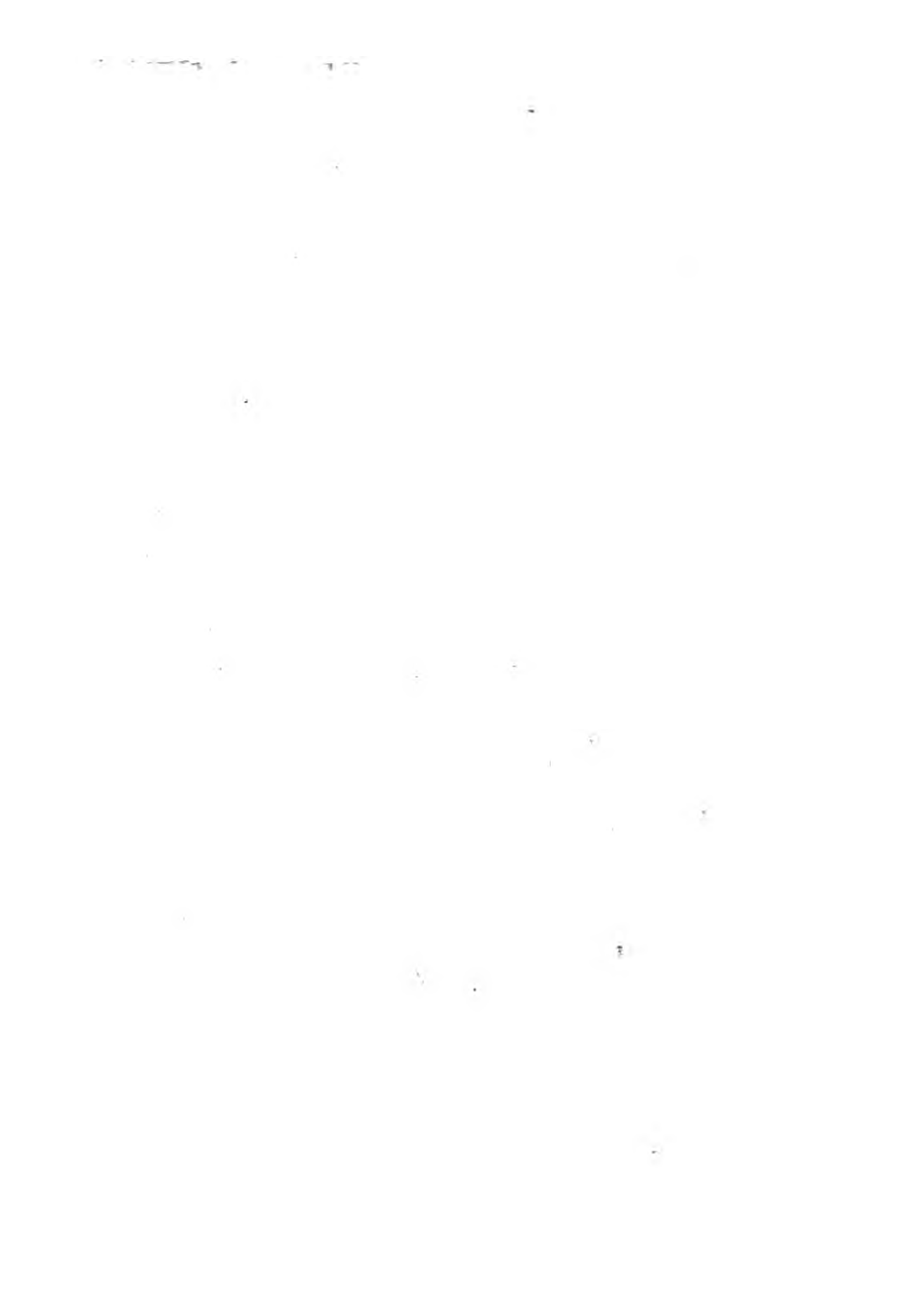
PLEASURES OF HOPE.

PART I.

AT summer eve, when Heav'n's aerial bow
Spans with bright arch the glittering hills below,
Why to yon mountain turns the musing eye,
Whose sunbright summit mingles with the sky?
Why do those cliffs of shadowy tint appear 5
More sweet than all the landscape smiling near?—
'Tis Distance lends enchantment to the view,
And robes the mountain in its azure hue.

Thus, with delight, we linger to survey
 The promis'd joys of life's unmeasur'd way ; 10
 Thus, from afar, each dim-discover'd scene
 More pleasing seems than all the past hath been ;
 And every form, that Fancy can repair
 From dark oblivion, glows divinely there.

What potent spirit guides the raptur'd eye 15
 To pierce the shades of dim futurity ?
 Can Wisdom lend, with all her heav'nly power,
 The pledge of Joy's anticipated hour ?
 Ah, no ! she darkly sees the fate of man—
 Her dim horizon bounded to a span ; 20
 Or, if she hold an image to the view,
 'Tis Nature pictur'd too severely true.





*When Murder bar'd her arm & rampant War
Took'd the red dragons of her iron car;
When peace & mercy banish'd from the plain,
Sprung on the viewless winds to Heav'n again.*

Published as the Act directs by Longman & Rees, London, 1st July, 1800.

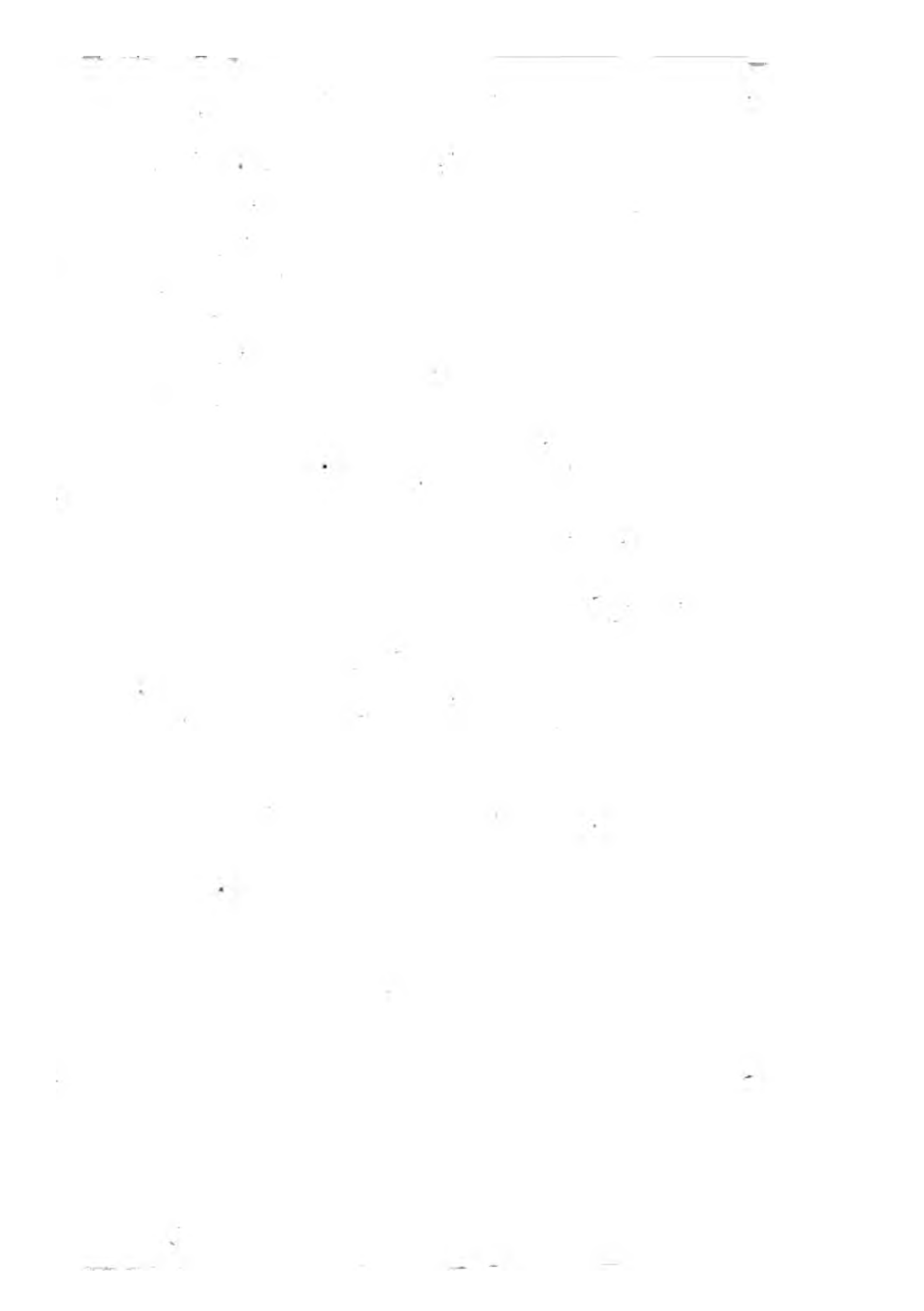
When Peace and Mercy, banish'd from the plain,
Sprung on the viewless winds to Heav'n again ; .

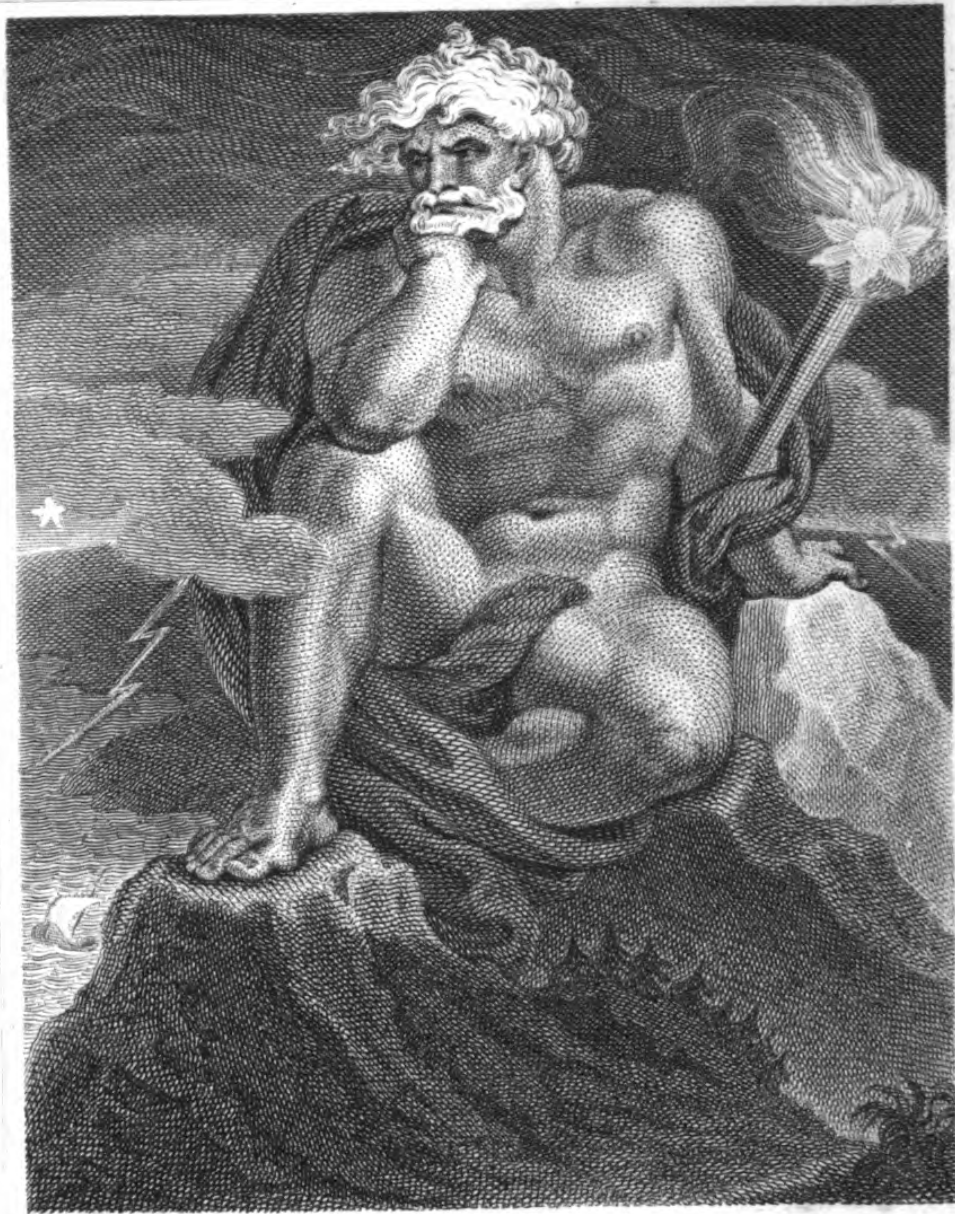
All, all forsook the friendless guilty mind,
But Hope, the charmer, linger'd still behind.

40

Thus, while Elijah's burning wheels prepare,
From Carmel's height, to sweep the fields of air,
The prophet's mantle, ere his flight began,
Dropp'd on the world—a sacred gift to man.

Auspicious Hope ! in thy sweet garden grow 45
Wreaths for each toil, a charm for every woe :
Won by their sweets, in Nature's languid hour,
The way-worn pilgrim seeks thy summer bower ;
There, as the wild-bee murmurs on the wing,
What peaceful dreams thy handmaid spirits bring ! 50





W. J. Smith del.

W. Verelstam sculp.

Now on Atlantic waves he rides afar,
Where Andes, giant of the western star,
With meteor standard to the winds unfurled,
Looks from his throne of clouds o'er half the world.

Published as the Act directs by Longman & Rees, London, 1st July, 1800.

What viewless forms th' Æolian organ play,
 And sweep the furrow'd lines of anxious thought away !

Angel of life ! thy glittering wings explore
 Earth's loneliest bounds, and Ocean's wildest shore.
 Lo ! to the wint'ry winds the pilot yields 55
 His bark careering o'er unfathom'd fields ;
 Now on Atlantic waves he rides afar,
 Where Andes, giant of the western star,
 With meteor standard to the winds unfurl'd,
 Looks from his throne of clouds o'er half the world. 60

Now far he sweeps, where scarce a summer smiles,
 On Behring's rocks, or Greenland's naked isles ;
 Cold on his midnight watch the breezes blow,
 From wastes that slumber in eternal snow ;

And waft, across the waves tumultuous roar, 65
 The wolf's long howl from Oonalaska's shore.

Poor child of danger, nursling of the storm,
 Sad are the woes that wreck thy manly form !
 Rocks, waves, and winds, the shatter'd bark delay ;
 Thy heart is sad, thy home is far away. 70

But Hope can here her moonlight vigils keep,
 And sing to charm the spirit of the deep :
 Swift as yon streamer lights the starry pole,
 Her visions warm the watchman's pensive soul :
 His native hills that rise in happier climes, 75
 The grot that heard his song of other times,
 His cottage-home, his bark of slender sail,
 His glassy lake, and broomwood blossom'd vale,

Rush on his thought ; he sweeps before the wind,
Treads the lov'd shore he figh'd to leave behind ; 80
Meets at each step a friend's familiar face,
And flies at last to Helen's long embrace ;
Wipes from her cheek the rapture-speaking tear,
And clasps, with many a sigh, his children dear !
While, long neglected, but at length carefs'd, 85
His faithful dog salutes the smiling guest,
Points to the master's eyes (where'er they roam)
His wittful face, and whines a welcome home.

Friend of the brave ! in peril's darkest hour,
Intrepid Virtue looks to thee for power ; 90
To thee the heart its trembling homage yields,
On stormy floods, and carnage-cover'd fields,

When front to front the banner'd hosts combine,
Halt ere they close, and form the dreadful line.

When all is still on Death's devoted foil, 95

The march-worn soldier mingles for the toil ;

As rings his glittering tube, he lifts on high

The dauntless brow, and spirit-speaking eye,

Hails in his heart the triumph yet to come,

And hears thy stormy music in the drum ! 100

And such thy strength-inspiring aid that bore
The hardy Byron to his native shore.— 1

In horrid climes, where Chiloe's tempests sweep

Tumultuous murmurs o'er the troubled deep,

'Twas his to mourn misfortune's rudest flock, 105

Scourg'd by the winds, and cradled on the rock,

To wake each joyless morn, and search again
The famish'd haunts of solitary men,
Whose race, unyielding as their native storm,
Knows not a trace of Nature but the form ; 110
Yet, at thy call, the hardy tar pursued,
Pale, but intrepid, sad, but unsubdued,
Pierc'd the deep woods, and, hailing from afar,
The moon's pale planet and the northern star ;
Paus'd at each dreary cry, unheard before, 115
Hyænas in the wild, and mermaids on the shore ;
Till, led by thee o'er many a cliff sublime,
He found a warmer world, a milder clime,
A home to rest, a shelter to defend,
Peace and repose, a Briton and a friend ! 2 120

Congenial Hope ! thy passion-kindling power,
 How bright, how strong, in youth's untroubled hour !
 On yon proud height, with genius hand in hand,
 I see thee light, and wave thy golden wand.

“ Go, Child of Heaven ! (thy winged words proclaim)
 'Tis thine to search the boundless fields of fame ! 126
 Lo ! Newton, Priest of Nature, shines afar,
 Scans the wide world, and numbers ev'ry star !
 Wilt thou, with him, mysterious rites apply,
 And watch the shrine with wonder-beaming eye ? 130
 Yes, thou shalt mark, with magic art profound,
 The speed of light, the circling march of sound ;
 With Franklin grasp the lightning's fiery wing,
 Or yield the lyre of Heav'n another string. ³

“ The Swedifh fage admires, in yonder bow’rs, ⁴ 135
 His winged infects, and his rofy flow’rs ;
 Calls from their woodland haunts the favage train
 With founding horn, and counts them on the plain—
 So once, at Heav’n’s command, the wand’rers came
 To Eden’s fhade, and heard their various name. 140

“ Far from the world, in yon fequefter’d clime,
 Slow pafs the fons of Wifdom, more fublime ;
 Calm as the fields of Heav’n, his fapient eye
 The lov’d Athenian lifts to realms on high,
 Admiring Plato on his fpotlefs page, 145
 Stamps the bright dictates of the Father fage :
 ‘ Shall Nature bound to Earth’s diurnal fpan
 The fire of God, th’ immortal foul of man ?’

“ Turn, Child of Heav’n, thy rapture-lighten’d eye
 To Wisdom’s walks, the sacred Nine are nigh : 150
 Hark ! from bright spires that gild the Delphian height,
 From streams that wander in eternal light,
 Rang’d on their hill, Harmonia’s daughters swell
 The mingling tones of horn, and harp, and shell ;
 Deep from his vaults, the Loxian murmurs flow, 155
 And Pythia’s awful organ peals below.

“ Belov’d of Heav’n ! the smiling muse shall shed
 Her moonlight halo on thy beauteous head ;
 Shall swell thy heart to rapture unconfin’d,
 And breathe a holy madness o’er thy mind. 160
 I see thee roam her guardian pow’r beneath,
 And talk with spirits on the midnight heath ;

Inquire of guilty wand'ers whence they came,
And ask each blood-stain'd form his earthly name ;
Then weave in rapid verse the deeds they tell, 165
And read the trembling world the tales of hell.

“ When Venus, thron'd in clouds of rosy hue,
Flings from her golden urn the vesper dew,
And bids fond man her glimmering noon employ,
Sacred to love and walks of tender joy ; 170
A milder mood the goddess shall recall,
And soft as dew thy tones of music fall ;
While Beauty's deeply pictur'd smiles impart
A pang more dear than pleasure to the heart—
Warm as thy sighs shall flow the Lesbian strain, 175
And plead in Beauty's ear, nor plead in vain.

“ Or wilt thou Orphean hymns more sacred deem,
 And steep thy song in Mercy’s mellow stream ;
 To pensive drops the radiant eye beguile—
 For Beauty’s tears are lovelier than her smile ;— 180
 On Nature’s throbbing anguish pour relief,
 And teach impassion’d souls the Joy of Grief ?

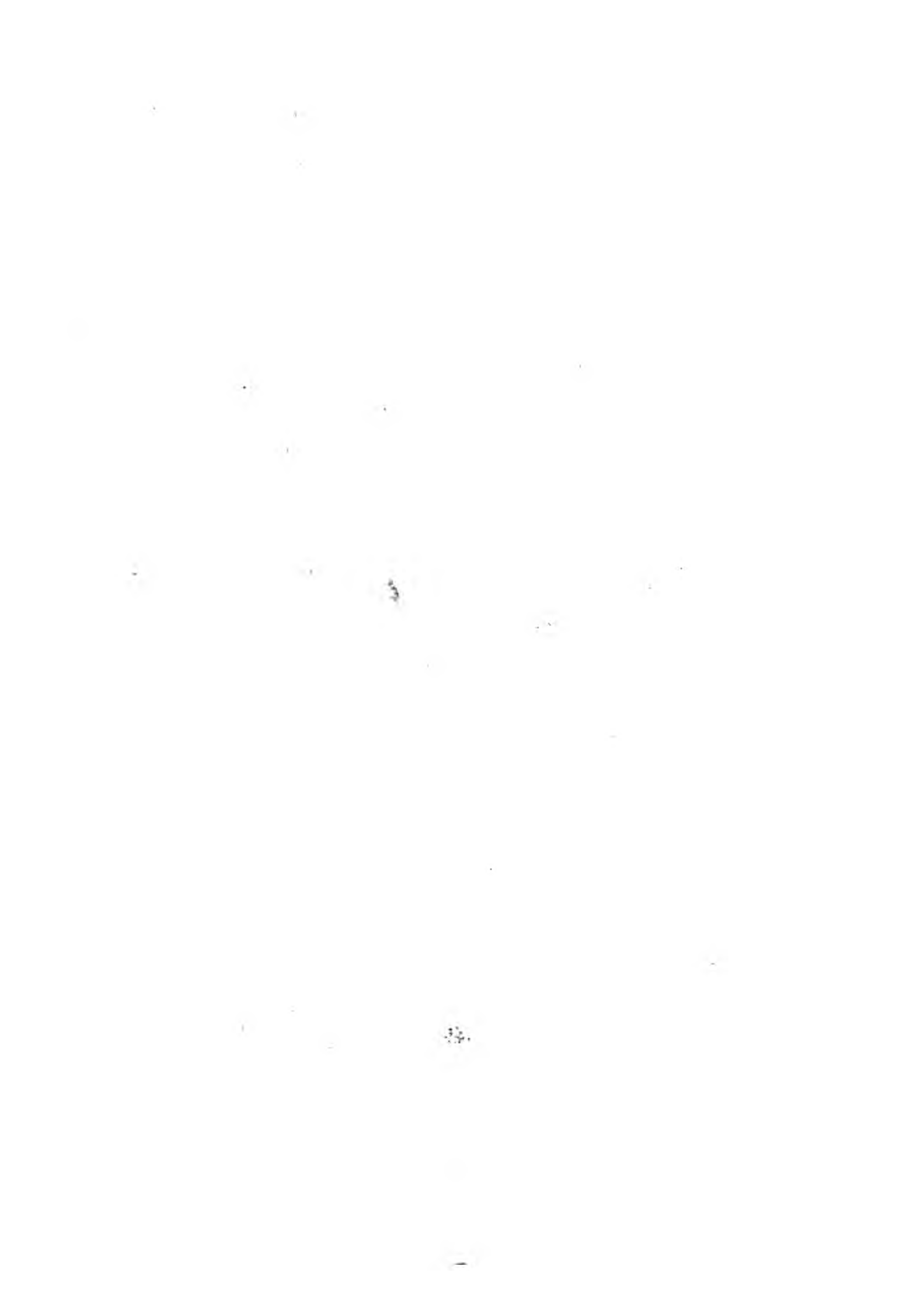
“ Yes ; to thy tongue shall seraph words be giv’n,
 And pow’r on earth to plead the cause of Heav’n ;
 The proud, the cold untroubled heart of stone, 185
 That never mus’d on sorrow but its own,
 Unlocks a generous store at thy command,
 Like Horeb’s rocks beneath the prophet’s hand. 6
 The living lumber of his kindred earth,
 Charm’d into soul, receives a second birth ; 190

Feels thy dread pow'r another heart afford,
 Whose passion-touch'd harmonious strings accord
 True as the circling spheres to Nature's plan ;
 And man, the brother, lives the friend of man !

“ Bright as the pillar rose at Heav'n's command, 195
 When Israel march'd along the desert land,
 Blaz'd through the night on lonely wilds afar,
 And told the path—a never-setting star :
 So, heav'nly Genius, in thy course divine,
 Hope is thy star, her light is ever thine.” 200

Propitious Pow'r ! when rankling cares annoy
 The sacred home of Hymenean joy ;
 When doom'd to Poverty's sequester'd dell,
 The wedded pair of love and virtue dwell,

Unpitied by the world, unknown to fame, 205
 Their woes, their wishes, and their hearts the same—
 Oh there, prophetic Hope! thy smile bestow,
 And chafe the pangs that worth should never know—
 There, as the parent deals his scanty store
 To friendless babes, and weeps to give no more ; 210
 Tell, that his manly race shall yet assuage
 Their father's wrongs, and shield his later age.
 What though for him no Hybla sweets distill,
 Nor bloomy vines wave purple on the hill ;
 Tell, that when silent years have pass'd away, 215
 That when his eye grows dim, his tresses gray,
 These busy hands a lovelier cot shall build,
 And deck with fairer flow'rs his little field,
 And call from Heav'n propitious dew's to breathe
 Arcadian beauty on the barren heath ; 220





Bunney, del.

Heath, sculp.

*Lo, at the couch where infant beauty sleeps,
Her silent watch the mournful mother keeps.*

Tell, that while Love's spontaneous smile endears
 The days of peace, the sabbath of his years,
 Health shall prolong to many a festive hour
 The social pleasures of his humble bower.

Lo ! at the couch where infant beauty sleeps, 225
 Her silent watch the mournful mother keeps ;
 She, while the lovely babe unconscious lies,
 Smiles on her slumb'ring child with pensive eyes,
 And weaves a song of melancholy joy—
 " Sleep, image of thy father, sleep, my boy : 230
 No ling'ring hour of sorrow shall be thine ;
 No sigh that rends thy father's heart and mine ;
 Bright as his manly fire, the son shall be
 In form and soul ; but, ah ! more blest than he !

Thy fame, thy worth, thy filial love, at last, 235
 Shall soothe this aching heart for all the past—
 With many a smile my solitude repay,
 And chase the world's ungenerous scorn away.

“ And say, when summon'd from the world and thee,
 I lay my head beneath the willow tree; 240
 Wilt *thou*, sweet mourner ! at my stone appear,
 And soothe my parted spirit ling'ring near ?
 Oh, wilt thou come, at ev'ning hour, to shed
 The tears of Memory o'er my narrow bed ;
 With aching temples on thy hand reclin'd, 245
 Muse on the last farewell I leave behind,
 Breathe a deep sigh to winds that murmur low,
 And think on all my love, and all my woe ?”

So speaks affection, ere the infant eye
Can look regard, or brighten in reply ; 250
But when the cherub lip hath learnt to claim
A mother's ear by that endearing name ;
Soon as the playful innocent can prove
A tear of pity, or a smile of love,
Or cons his murm'ring task beneath her care, 255
Or lisps with holy look his ev'ning prayer,
Or gazing, mutely penfive, fits to hear
The mournful ballad warbled in his ear ;
How fondly looks admiring Hope the while,
At every artless tear, and every smile ! 260
How glows the joyous parent to descry
A guileless bosom, true to sympathy !

Where is the troubled heart, consign'd to share
 Tumultuous toils, or solitary care,
 Unblest by visionary thoughts that stray 265
 To count the joys of Fortune's better day !
 Lo, nature, life, and liberty relume
 The dim-ey'd tenant of the dungeon gloom,
 A long lost friend, or hapless child restor'd,
 Smile at his blazing hearth and social board ; 270
 Warm from his heart the tears of rapture flow,
 And virtue triumphs o'er remember'd woe.

Chide not his peace, proud Reason ! nor destroy
 The shadowy forms of uncreated joy,
 That urge the lingering tide of life, and pour 275
 Spontaneous slumber on his midnight hour.

Hark ! the wild maniac sings, to chide the gale
 That wafts so slow her lover's distant sail ;
 She, sad spectatress, on the wint'ry shore
 Watch'd the rude surge his shroudless corse that bore,
 Knew the pale form, and, shrieking in amaze, 281
 Clasp'd her cold hands, and fix'd her maddening gaze :
 Poor widow'd wretch ! 'twas there she wept in vain,
 Till memory fled her agonizing brain ;—
 But Mercy gave, to charm the sense of woe, 285
 Ideal peace, that Truth could ne'er bestow ;—
 Warm on her heart the joys of Fancy beam,
 And aimless Hope delights her darkest dream.

Oft when yon moon has climb'd the midnight sky,
 And the lone sea-bird wakes its wildest cry, 290

Pil'd on the steep, her blazing faggots burn
To hail the bark that never can return ;
And still she waits, but scarce forbears to weep
That constant love can linger on the deep.

And, mark the wretch, whose wand'rings never knew
The world's regard, that soothes, though half untrue, 296
Whose erring heart the lash of sorrow bore,
But found not pity when it err'd no more.
Yon friendless man, at whose dejected eye
Th' unfeeling proud one looks—and passes by ; 300
Condemn'd on Penury's barren path to roam,
Scorn'd by the world, and left without a home—
Ev'n he, at evening, should he chance to stray
Down by the hamlet's hawthorn-scented way,



Hurmay Del.

Kittler Sculp.

*Leans o'er its humble gate, & thinks the while—
 Oh! that for me some home like this would smile,
 Some hamlet shade, to yield my sickly form,
 Health in the breeze, & shelter in the storm.*

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Where, round the cot's romantic glade, are seen 305

The blossom'd bean-field, and the sloping green,

Leans o'er its humble gate, and thinks the while—

Oh! that for me some home like this would smile,

Some hamlet shade, to yield my fickle form,

Health in the breeze, and shelter in the storm; 310

There should my hand no flinted boon assign

To wretched hearts with sorrows such as mine;—

That generous wish can soothe unpitied care,

And Hope half mingles with the poor man's pray'r.

Hope! when I mourn, with sympathizing mind, 315

The wrongs of fate, the woes of human kind,

Thy blissful omens bid my spirit see

The boundless fields of rapture yet to be;

I watch the wheels of Nature's mazy plan,
 And learn the future by the past of man.

320

Come, bright Improvement ! on the car of Time,
 And rule the spacious world from clime to clime ;
 Thy handmaid arts shall every wild explore,
 Trace every wave, and culture every shore.
 On Erie's banks, where tygers steal along,
 And the dread Indian chants a dismal song,
 Where human fiends on midnight errands walk,
 And bathe in brains the murd'rous tomahawk ;
 There shall the flocks on thymy pasture stray,
 And shepherds dance at Summer's op'ning day ;
 Each wand'ring genius of the lonely glen
 Shall start to view the glittering haunts of men ;

325

330

And silence watch, on woodland heights around,
The village curfew, as it tolls profound.

In Lybian groves, where damned rites are done, 335
That bathe the rocks in blood, and veil the fun,
Truth shall arrest the murd'rous arm profane,
Wild Obi flies ⁷—the veil is rent in twain.

Where barb'rous hordes on Scythian mountains roam,
Truth, Mercy, Freedom, yet shall find a home ; 340
Where'er degraded Nature bleeds and pines,
From Guinea's coast to Sibir's dreary mines, ⁸
Truth shall pervade th' unfathom'd darkness there,
And light the dreadful features of despair.—
Hark ! the stern captive spurns his heavy load, 345
And asks the image back that Heaven bestow'd !

Fierce in his eye the fire of valour burns,
 And, as the slave departs, the man returns !

Oh ! sacred Truth ! thy triumph ceas'd a while,
 And Hope, thy sister, ceas'd with thee to smile, 350
 When leagu'd Oppression pour'd to Northern wars
 Her whifker'd pandoors and her fierce huffars,
 Wav'd her dread standard to the breeze of morn,
 Peal'd her loud drum, and twang'd her trumpet horn ;
 Tumultuous horror brooded o'er her van, 355
 Prefaging wrath to Poland—and to man ! 9

Warfaw's last champion, from her height survey'd,
 Wide o'er the fields, a waste of ruin laid,—
 Oh ! Heav'n ! he cried, my bleeding country save !—
 Is there no hand on high to shield the brave ?— 360

Yet, though destruction sweep these lovely plains,
 Rise, fellow-men ! our country yet remains !
 By that dread name, we wave the sword on high,
 And swear for her to live !—with her to die !

He said, and on the rampart-heights array'd 365
 His trusty warriors, few, but undismay'd ;
 Firm-plant'd and slow, a horrid front they form,
 Still as the breeze, but dreadful as the storm ;
 Low, murm'ring sounds along their banners fly,
 Revenge, or death,—the watchword and reply ; 370
 Then peal'd the notes, omnipotent to charm,
 And the loud tocsin toll'd their last alarm !—

In vain, alas ! in vain, ye gallant few !
 From rank to rank your volley'd thunder flew :—

Oh ! bloodiest picture in the book of Time, 375
 Sarmatia fell, unwept, without a crime ;
 Found not a generous friend, a pitying foe,
 Strength in her arms, nor mercy in her woe !
 Dropp'd from her nerveless grasp the shatter'd spear,
 Clos'd her bright eye, and curb'd her high career ;— 380
 Hope, for a season, bade the world farewell,
 And Freedom shriek'd—as KOSCIUSKO fell !

The sun went down, nor ceas'd the carnage there,
 Tumultuous murder shook the midnight air—
 On Prague's proud arch the fires of ruin glow, 385
 His blood-dy'd waters murm'ring far below ;—
 The storm prevails, the rampart yields a way,
 Bursts the wild cry of horror and dismay !—

Hark ! as the smouldering piles with thunder fall,
A thousand shrieks for hopeless mercy call ! 390
Earth shook—red meteors flash'd along the sky,
And conscious Nature shudder'd at the cry !

Oh ! Righteous Heav'n ! ere Freedom found a grave,
Why slept the sword, omnipotent to save ?
Where was thine arm, O Vengeance ! where thy rod, 395
That smote the foes of Zion and of God,
That crush'd proud Ammon, when his iron car
Was yok'd in wrath, and thunder'd from afar ?
Where was the storm that slumber'd till the host
Of blood-stain'd Pharaoh left their trembling coast, 400
Then bade the deep in wild commotion flow,
And heav'd an ocean on their march below ?

Departed spirits of the mighty dead !
 Ye that at Marathon and Leuctra bled !
 Friends of the world ! restore your swords to man, 405
 Fight in his sacred cause, and lead the van !
 Yet for Sarmatia's tears of blood atone,
 And make her arm puiſſant as your own !—
 Oh ! once again to Freedom's cause return
 The patriot TELL—the BRUCE OF BANNOCKBURN ! 410

Yes ! thy proud lords, unpitied land ! ſhall ſee
 That man hath yet a ſoul—and dare be free !
 A little while, along thy ſaddening plains,
 The ſtarleſs night of deſolation reigns ;
 Truth ſhall reſtore the light by Nature giv'n, 415
 And, like Prometheus, bring the fire of Heav'n !

Prone to the dust oppression shall be hurl'd,
Her name, her nature, wither'd from the world!

Ye that the rising morn invidious mark,
And hate the light—because your deeds are dark; 420
Ye that expanding truth invidious view,
And think, or wish the song of Hope untrue;
Perhaps your little hands presume to span
The march of Genius, and the pow'rs of man;
Perhaps ye watch, at Pride's unhallow'd shrine, 425
Her victims, newly slain, and thus divine:—
“ Here shall thy triumph, Genius, cease, and here,
Truth, Science, Virtue, close your short career.”

Tyrants! in vain ye trace the wizard ring;
In vain ye limit Mind's unwearied spring: 430

What ! can ye lull the winged winds asleep,
 Arrest the rolling world, or chain the deep ?
 No :—the wild wave contemns your scepter'd hand ;—
 It roll'd not back when Canute gave command !

Man ! can thy doom no brighter soul allow ? 435
 Still must thou live a blot on Nature's brow ?
 Shall War's polluted banner ne'er be furl'd ?
 Shall crimes and tyrants cease but with the world ?
 What ! are thy triumphs, sacred Truth, belied ?
 Why then hath Plato liv'd—or Sydney died ? 440

Ye fond adorers of departed fame,
 Who warm at Scipio's worth, or Tully's name !
 Ye that, in fancied vision, can admire
 The sword of Brutus, and the Theban lyre !

Wrapt in historic ardour, who adore 445
 Each classic haunt, and well-remember'd shore,
 Where Valour tun'd, amid her chosen throng,
 The Thracian trumpet and the Spartan song ;
 Or, wand'ring thence, behold the later charms
 Of England's glory, and Helvetia's arms ! 450
 See Roman fire in Hampden's bosom swell,
 And fate and freedom in the shaft of Tell !
 Say, ye fond zealots to the worth of yore,
 Hath Valour left the world—to live no more ?
 No more shall Brutus bid a tyrant die, 455
 And sternly smile with vengeance in his eye ?
 Hampden no more, when suffering Freedom calls,
 Encounter fate, and triumph as he falls ?
 Nor Tell disclose, through peril and alarm,
 The might that slumbers in a peasant's arm ? 460

Yes ! in that generous cause for ever strong,
 The patriot's virtue, and the poet's song,
 Still, as the tide of ages rolls away,
 Shall charm the world, unconscious of decay !

Yes ! there are hearts, prophetic Hope may trust, 465
 That slumber yet in uncreated dust,
 Ordain'd to fire th' adoring sons of earth
 With every charm of wisdom and of worth ;
 Ordain'd to light, with intellectual day,
 The mazy wheels of Nature as they play, 470
 Or, warm with Fancy's energy, to glow,
 And rival all but Shakspeare's name below !

And say, supernal Powers ! who deeply scan
 Heav'n's dark decrees, unfathom'd yet by man,

When shall the world call down, to cleanse her shame, 475

That embryo spirit, yet without a name,—

That friend of Nature, whose avenging hands

Shall burst the Lybian's adamantine bands?

Who, sternly marking on his native foil,

The blood, the tears, the anguish, and the toil, 480

Shall bid each righteous heart exult, to see

Peace to the slave, and vengeance on the free!

Yet, yet, degraded men! th' expected day

That breaks your bitter cup, is far away;

Trade, wealth, and fashion, ask you still to bleed, 485

And holy men give scripture for the deed;

Scourg'd and debas'd, no Briton stoops to save

A wretch, a coward; yes, because a slave!

Eternal Nature ! when thy giant hand
Had heav'd the-floods, and fix'd the trembling land, 490
When life sprung startling at thy plastic call,
Endless her forms, and Man the lord of all !
Say, was that lordly form inspir'd by thee
To wear eternal chains, and bow the knee ?
Was man ordain'd the slave of man to toil, 495
Yok'd with the brutes, and fetter'd to the foil ;
Weigh'd in a tyrant's balance with his gold ?
No !—Nature stamp'd us in a heav'nly mould !
She bade no wretch his thankless labour urge,
Nor, trembling, take the pittance and the scourge ! 500
No homeless Lybian, on the stormy deep,
'To call upon his country's name, and weep !

Lo ! once in triumph on his boundless plain,
 The quiver'd chief of Congo lov'd to reign ;
 With fires proportion'd to his native sky, 505
 Strength in his arm, and lightning in his eye ;
 Scour'd with wild feet his sun-illumin'd zone,
 The spear, the lion, and the woods his own ;
 Or led the combat, bold without a plan,
 An artless savage, but a fearless man ! 510

The plunderer came :—alas ! no glory smiles
 For Congo's chief on yonder Indian isles ;
 For ever fallen ! no son of Nature now,
 With Freedom charter'd on his manly brow !
 Faint, bleeding, bound, he weeps the night away, 515
 And, when the sea-wind wafts the dewless day,

Starts, with a bursting heart, for ever more
 To curse the sun that lights their guilty shore !

The shrill horn blew ; ¹⁰ at that alarum knell
 His guardian angel took a last farewell ! 520
 That funeral dirge to darkness hath resign'd
 The fiery grandeur of a generous mind !
 Poor fetter'd man ! I hear thee whispering low
 Unhallow'd vows to Guilt, the child of Woe !
 Friendless thy heart ; and, canst thou harbour there 525
 A wish but death—a passion but despair ?

The widow'd Indian, when her lord expires,
 Mounts the dread pile, and braves the funeral fires !
 So falls the heart at Thralldom's bitter sigh !
 So Virtue dies, the spouse of Liberty ! 530

But not to Lybia's barren climes alone,
 To Chili, or the wild Siberian zone,
 Belong the wretched heart and haggard eye,
 Degraded worth, and poor misfortune's sigh!—
 Ye orient realms, where Ganges' waters run ! 535
 Prolific fields! dominions of the sun!
 How long your tribes have trembled, and obey'd!
 How long was Timur's iron sceptre sway'd! 540
 Whose marshal'd hosts, the lions of the plain,
 From Scythia's northern mountains to the main,
 Rag'd o'er your plunder'd shrines and altars bare,
 With blazing torch and gory scymitar,—
 Stunn'd with the cries of death each gentle gale,
 And bath'd in blood the verdure of the vale!
 Yet could no pangs the immortal spirit tame, 545
 When Brama's children perish'd for his name;

The martyr smil'd beneath avenging pow'r,
 And brav'd the tyrant in his torturing hour !

When Europe fought your subject realms to gain,
 And stretch'd her giant sceptre o'er the main, 550
 Taught her proud barks their winding way to shape,
 And brav'd the stormy spirit of the Cape ; ^{1 2}
 Children of Brama ! then was mercy nigh
 To wash the stain of blood's eternal dye ?
 Did Peace descend, to triumph and to save, 555
 When free born Britons cross'd the Indian wave ?
 Ah, no !—to more than Rome's ambition true,
 The Nurse of Freedom gave it not to you !
 She the bold route of Europe's guilt began,
 And in the march of nations, led the van ! 560

Rich in the gems of India's gaudy zone,
And plunder pil'd from kingdoms not their own,
Degenerate Trade! thy minions could despise
The heart-born anguish of a thousand cries;
Could lock, with impious hands, their teeming store, 565
While famish'd nations died along the shore; '3
Could mock the groans of fellow-men, and bear
The curse of kingdoms peopled with despair;
Could stamp disgrace on man's polluted name,
And barter, with their gold, eternal shame! 570

But, hark! as bow'd to earth the Bramin kneels,
From heav'nly climes propitious thunder peals!
Of India's fate her guardian spirits tell,
Prophetic murmurs breathing on the shell,

And solemn sounds, that awe the lift'ning mind, 575
 Roll on the azure paths of ev'ry wind.

“ Foes of mankind ! (her guardian spirits say)
 Revolving ages bring the bitter day,
 When Heav'n's unerring arm shall fall on you,
 And blood for blood these Indian plains bedew ; 580
 Nine times have Brama's wheels of lightning hurl'd
 His awful presence o'er the alarmed world ;
 Nine times hath Guilt, through all his giant frame,
 Convulsive trembled as the Mighty came ;
 Nine times hath suffering Mercy spar'd in vain—¹⁴ 585
 But Heav'n shall burst her starry gates again !
 He comes ! dread Brama shakes the sunless sky
 With murmuring wrath, and thunders from on high !

Heaven's fiery horse, beneath his warrior form,
 Paws the light clouds, and gallops on the storm ! 590
 Wide waves his flickering sword, his bright arms glow
 Like summer suns, and light the world below !
 Earth, and her trembling isles in Ocean's bed
 Are shook, and Nature rocks beneath his tread !

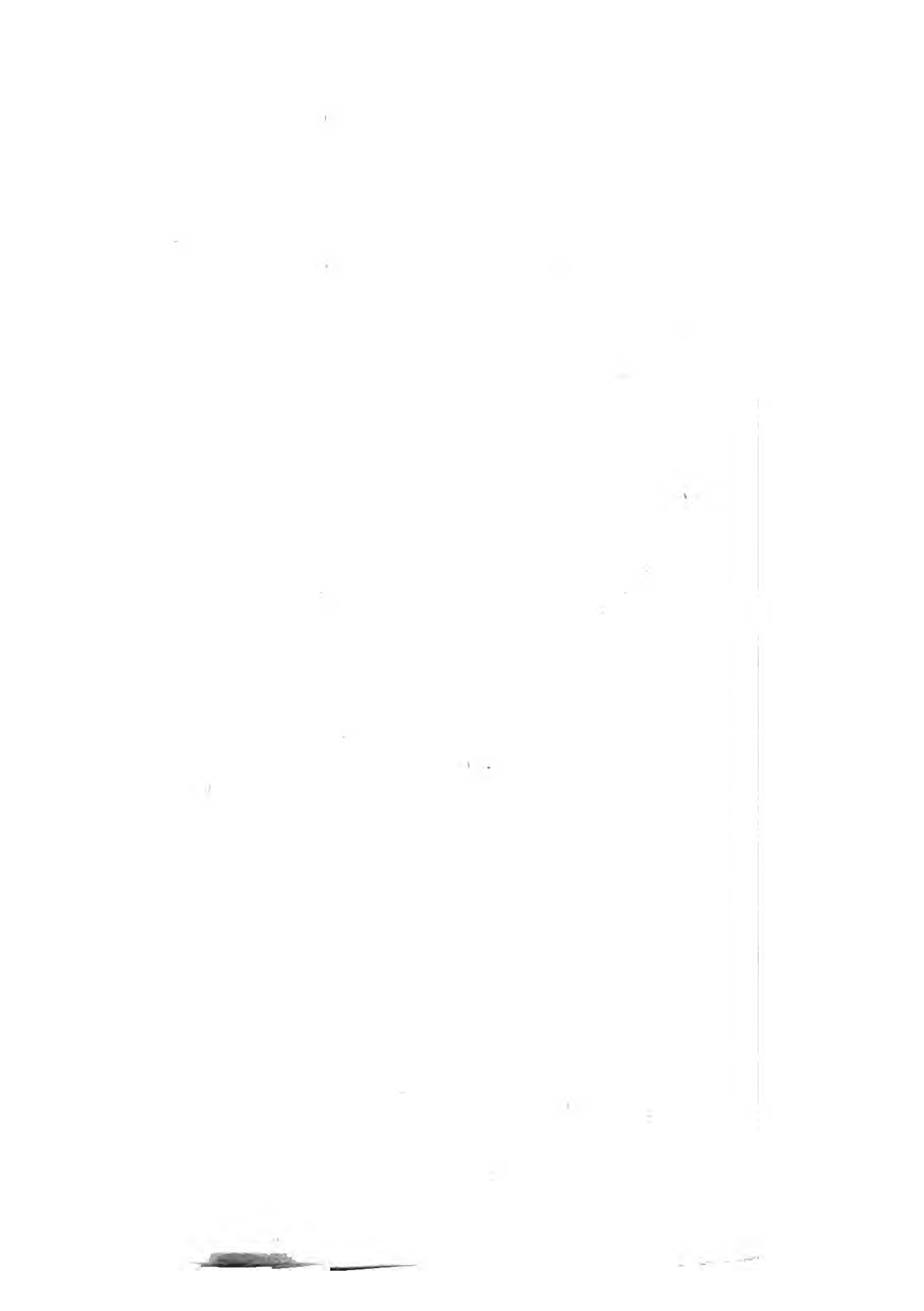
To pour redress on India's injur'd realm, 595
 The oppressor to dethrone, the proud to whelm ;
 To chase destruction from her plunder'd shore
 With arts and arms that triumph'd once before,
 The tenth Avatar comes ! at Heav'n's command
 Shall Serifwattee * 5 wave her hallowed wand ! 600
 And Camdeo bright, and Ganefa sublime,
 Shall bless with joy their own propitious clime !—

Come, Heav'nly Powers ! primeval peace restore !
Love !—Mercy !—Wisdom !—rule for ever more !”

END OF PART FIRST.

THE
PLEASURES OF HOPE;

PART SECOND.



ANALYSIS OF PART II.

APOSTROPHE to the power of Love.—Its intimate connection with generous and social Sensibility.—Allusion to that beautiful passage in the beginning of the Book of Genesis, which represents the happiness of Paradise itself incomplete, till Love was superadded to its other blessings.—The dreams of future felicity which a lively imagination is apt to cherish, when Hope is animated by refined attachment.—This disposition to combine, in one imaginary scene of residence, all that is pleasing in our estimate of happiness, compared to the skill of the great artist, who personified perfect beauty, in the picture of Venus, by an assemblage of the most beautiful features he could find.—A summer and winter evening described, as they may be supposed to arise in the mind of one who wishes, with enthusiasm, for the union of friendship and retirement.

Hope and Imagination inseparable agents.—Even in those contemplative moments when our imagination wanders beyond the boundaries of this world, our minds are not unattended with an impression, that we shall some day have a wider and distinct prospect of the universe, instead of the partial glimpse we now enjoy.

The last and most sublime influence of Hope, is the concluding topic of the Poem. The predominance of a belief in a future state over the terrors attendant on dissolution.—The baneful influence of that sceptical philosophy which bars us from such comforts.—Allusion to the fate of a suicide.—Episode of Conrad and Ellenore.—Conclusion.



PLEASURES OF HOPE.

PART II.

IN joyous youth, what soul hath never known
Thought, feeling, taste, harmonious to its own?
Who hath not paus'd, while Beauty's pensive eye
Ask'd from his heart the homage of a sigh?
Who hath not own'd, with rapture-smitten frame, 5
The power of grace, the magic of a name?

There be, perhaps, who barren hearts avow,
Cold as the rocks on Torneo's hoary brow;

There be, whose loveless wisdom never fail'd,
 In self-adoring pride securely mail'd ;— 10
 But, triumph not, ye peace-enamour'd few !
 Fire, Nature, Genius, never dwelt with you !
 For you no fancy consecrates the scene
 Where rapture utter'd vows, and wept between ;
 'Tis yours, unmov'd, to sever and to meet ; 15
 No pledge is sacred, and no home is sweet !

Who that would ask a heart to dulness wed,
 The waveless calm, the slumber of the dead ?
 No ; the wild bliss of Nature needs alloy,
 And fear and sorrow fan the fire of joy ! 20
 And say, without our hopes, without our fears,
 Without the home that plighted love endears,

Without the smile from partial beauty won,
 O! what were man?—a world without a fun!

Till Hymen brought his love-delighted hour, 25
 There dwelt no joy in Eden's rosy bow'r!
 In vain the viewless seraph ling'ring there,
 At starry midnight, charm'd the silent air;
 In vain the wild-bird carol'd on the steep,
 To hail the sun, flow-wheeling from the deep; 30
 In vain, to soothe the solitary shade,
 Aerial notes in mingling measure play'd;
 The summer wind that shook the spangled tree,
 The whispering wave, the murmur of the bee;—
 Still slowly pass'd the melancholy day, 35
 And still the stranger wist not where to stray,—

The world was fad!—the garden was a wild!
 And Man, the hermit, figh'd—till Woman fmil'd!

True, the fad power to generous hearts may bring
 Delirious anguish on his fiery wing! 40
 Barr'd from delight by Fate's untimely hand,
 By wealthless lot, or pitiless command;
 Or doom'd to gaze on beauties that adorn
 The smile of triumph, or the frown of scorn;
 While Memory watches o'er the fad review 45
 Of joys that faded like the morning dew;
 Peace may depart—and life and nature seem
 A barren path—a wildness, and a dream!

But, can the noble mind for ever brood,
 The willing victim of a weary mood, 50

On heartless cares that squander life away,
 And cloud young Genius bright'ning into day!—
 Shame to the coward thought that e'er betray'd
 The noon of manhood to a myrtle shade!—

If Hope's creative spirit cannot raise 55

One trophy sacred to thy future days,
 Scorn the dull crowd that haunt the gloomy shrine
 Of hopeless love to murmur and repine!

But, should a sigh of milder mood express
 Thy heart-warm wishes, true to happiness, 60

Should Heav'n's fair harbinger delight to pour

Her blissful visions on thy pensive hour,

No tear to blot thy memory's pictur'd page,

No fears but such as fancy can alluage;

Though thy wild heart some hapless hour may miss 65

The peaceful tenor of unvaried bliss,

(For love pursues an ever devious race,
 True to the winding lineaments of grace);
 Yet still may Hope her talisman employ
 To snatch from Heaven anticipated joy, 70
 And all her kindred energies impart
 That burn the brightest in the purest heart !

When first the Rhodian's mimic art array'd
 The queen of Beauty in her Cyprian shade,
 The happy master mingled on his piece 75
 Each look that charm'd him in the fair of Greece ;
 To faultless Nature true, he stole a grace
 From every finer form and sweeter face ;
 And, as he sojourn'd on the Ægean isles,
 Woo'd all their love, and treasur'd all their smiles ; 80

Then glow'd the tints, pure, precious, and refin'd,
 And mortal charms seem'd heav'nly when combin'd !
 Love on the picture smil'd ! Expression pour'd
 Her mingling spirit there—and Greece ador'd !

So thy fair hand, enamour'd Fancy ! gleans 85
 The treasur'd pictures of a thousand scenes !
 Thy pencil traces on the Lover's thought
 Some cottage-home, from towns and toil remote,
 Where Love and Lore may claim alternate hours,
 With Peace embosom'd in Idalian bow'rs ! 90
 Remote from busy Life's bewilder'd way,
 O'er all his heart shall Taste and Beauty sway !
 Free on the sunny slope, or winding shore,
 With hermit steps to wander and adore !

There shall he love, when genial morn appears, 95
 Like pensive Beauty smiling in her tears,
 To watch the bright'ning roses of the sky,
 And muse on Nature with a poet's eye!—
 And when the sun's last splendour lights the deep,
 The woods, and waves, and murm'ring winds asleep; 100
 When fairy harps th' Hesperian planet hail,
 And the lone cuckoo sighs along the vale,
 His path shall be where streamy mountains swell,
 Their shadowy grandeur o'er the narrow dell,
 Where mouldering piles and forests intervene, 105
 Mingling with darker tints the living green;
 No circling hills his ravish'd eye to bound,
 Heaven, Earth, and Ocean, blazing all around!

The moon is up—the watch-tow'r dimly burns—
 And down the vale his sober step returns ; 110
 But pauses oft, as winding rocks convey
 The still sweet fall of Music far away ;
 And oft he lingers from his home a while
 To watch the dying notes !—and start, and smile !

Let Winter come ! let polar spirits sweep 115
 The dark'ning world, and tempest-troubled deep !
 Though boundless snows the wither'd heath deform,
 And the dim sun scarce wanders through the storm ;
 Yet shall the smile of social love repay,
 With mental light, the melancholy day ! 120
 And, when its short and fullen noon is o'er,
 The ice-chain'd waters slumb'ring on the shore,

How bright the faggots in his little hall
Blaze on the hearth, and warm the pictur'd wall !

How blest he names, in Love's familiar tone, 125
The kind fair friend, by Nature mark'd his own ;
And, in the waveless mirror of his mind,
Views the fleet years of pleasure left behind,
Since Anna's empire o'er his heart began !
Since first he call'd her his before the holy man ! 130

Trim the gay taper in his rustic dome,
And light the wint'ry paradise of home ;
And let the half-uncurtain'd window hail
Some way-worn man benighted in the vale !
Now, while the moaning night-wind rages high, 135
As sweep the shot-stars down the troubled sky,

While fiery hofts in Heav'n's wide circle play,
 And bathe in livid light the milky way,
 Safe from the storm, the meteor, and the shower,
 Some pleasing page shall charm the solemn hour— 140
 With pathos shall command, with wit beguile,
 A generous tear of anguish, or a smile—
 Thy woes, Arion ! and thy simple tale, ²
 O'er all the heart shall triumph and prevail !
 Charm'd as they read the verse too sadly true, 145
 How gallant Albert, and his weary crew,
 Heav'd all their guns, their foundering bark to save,
 And toil'd—and shriek'd—and perish'd on the wave !

Yes, at the dead of night, by Lonna's steep,
 The seaman's cry was heard along the deep ; 150

There, on his funeral waters, dark and wild,
 The dying father blest his darling child !
 Oh ! Mercy, shield her innocence, he cried,
 Spent on the pray'r his bursting heart, and died !

Or will they learn how generous worth sublimes 15
 The robber Moor, ³ and pleads for all his crimes !
 How poor Amelia kifs'd, with many a tear,
 His hand blood-stain'd, but ever ever dear !
 Hung on the tortur'd bosom of her lord,
 And wept, and pray'd perdition from his sword ! 16
 Nor fought in vain ! at that heart-piercing cry
 The strings of nature crack'd with agony !
 He, with delirious laugh, the dagger hurl'd,
 And burst the ties that bound him to the world !

Turn from his dying words, that smite with steel, 165
 The shuddering thoughts, or wind them on the wheel—
 Turn to the gentler melodies that suit
 Thalia's harp, or Pan's Arcadian lute ;
 Or, down the stream of Truth's historic page,
 From clime to clime descend, from age to age ! 170

Yet there, perhaps, may darker scenes obtrude
 Than Fancy fashions in her wildest mood ;
 There shall he pause, with horrent brow, to rate
 What millions died—that Cæsar might be great ! 4
 Or learn the fate that bleeding thousands bore, 5 175
 March'd by their Charles to Dneiper's swampy shore ;
 Faint in his wounds, and shivering in the blast,
 The Swedish soldier sunk—and groan'd his last !

File after file, the stormy showers benumb,
 Freeze every standard-sheet, and hush the drum ! 180
 Horsemen and horse confess'd the bitter pang,
 And arms and warriors fell with hollow clang !
 Yet, ere he sunk in Nature's last repose,
 Ere life's warm torrent to the fountain froze,
 The dying man to Sweden turn'd his eye, 185
 Thought of his home, and clos'd it with a sigh !
 Imperial Pride look'd fullen on his plight,
 And Charles beheld—nor shudder'd at the fight !

Above, below, in Ocean, Earth, and Sky,
 Thy fairy worlds, Imagination, lie, 190
 And Hope attends, companion of the way,
 Thy dream by night, thy visions of the day !

In yonder penfile orb, and every sphere
 That gems the starry girdle of the year ;
 In those unmeasur'd worlds, she bids thee tell, 195
 Pure from their God, created millions dwell,
 Whose names and natures, unreveal'd below,
 We yet shall learn, and wonder as we know ;
 For, as Iona's Saint, a giant form, 6
 Thron'd on her tow'rs, conversing with the storm, 200
 (When o'er each runic altar, weed-entwin'd,
 The vesper clock tolls mournful to the wind),
 Counts every wave-worn isle, and mountain hoar,
 From Kilda to the green Ierne's shore ;
 So, when thy pure and renovatèd mind 205
 This perishable dust hath left behind,
 Thy seraph eye shall count the starry train,
 Like distant isles embosom'd in the main ;

Rapt to the shrine where motion first began,
 And light and life in mingling torrent ran ; 210
 From whence each bright rotundity was hurl'd,
 The Throne of God,—the centre of the world !

Oh ! vainly wise, the moral Muse hath sung
 That suasive Hope hath but a Syren tongue !
 True ; she may sport with life's untutor'd day, 215
 Nor heed the solace of its last decay,
 The guileless heart her happy mansion spurn,
 And part like Ajut—never to return ! 7

But yet, methinks, when Wisdom shall assuage
 The griefs and passions of our greener age, 220
 Though dull the close of life, and far away
 Each flow'r that hail'd the dawning of the day ;

Yet o'er her lovely hopes that once were dear,
 The time-taught spirit, pensive, not severe,
 With milder griefs her aged eye shall fill, 225
 And weep their falsehood, though she love them still !

Thus, with forgiving tears, and reconcil'd,
 The king of Judah mourn'd his rebel child !
 Musing on days, when yet the guiltless boy
 Smil'd on his fire, and fill'd his heart with joy ! 230
 My Absalom ! the voice of Nature cried !
 Oh ! that for thee thy father could have died !
 For bloody was the deed, and rashly done,
 That slew my Absalom !—my son !—my son !

Unfading Hope ! when life's last embers burn, 235
 When soul to soul, and dust to dust return !

Heav'n to thy charge resigns the awful hour !
 Oh ! then, thy kingdom comes ! Immortal Power !
 What though each spark of earth-born rapture fly
 The quivering lip, pale cheek, and closing eye ! 240
 Bright to the soul thy seraph hands convey
 The morning dream of life's eternal day—
 Then, then, the triumph and the trance begin !
 And all the Phoenix spirit burns within !

Oh ! deep-enchancing prelude to repose, 245
 The dawn of bliss, the twilight of our woes !
 Yet half I hear the parting spirit sigh,
 It is a dread and awful thing to die !
 Mysterious worlds, untravell'd by the sun !
 Where Time's far-wand'ring tide has never run, 250

From your unfathom'd shades, and viewless spheres,

A warning comes, unheard by other ears.

'Tis Heav'n's commanding trumpet, long and loud,

Like Sinai's thunder, pealing from the cloud !

While Nature hears, with terror-mingled trust, 255

The shock that hurls her fabric to the dust ;

And, like the trembling Hebrew, when he trod

The roaring waves, and call'd upon his God,

With mortal terrors clouds immortal bliss,

And shrieks, and hovers o'er the dark abyfs ! 260

Daughter of Faith, awake, arise, illumine

The dread unknown, the chaos of the tomb !

Melt, and dispel, ye spectre-doubts, that roll

Cimmerian darkness on the parting soul !

Fly, like the moon-ey'd herald of dismay, 265
 Chas'd on his night-steed by the star of day !
 The strife is o'er—the pangs of Nature close,
 And life's last rapture triumphs o'er her woes.
 Hark ! as the spirit eyes, with eagle gaze,
 The noon of Heav'n undazzled by the blaze, 270
 On Heav'nly winds that waft her to the sky,
 Float the sweet tones of star-born melody ;
 Wild as that hallow'd anthem sent to hail
 Bethlehem's shepherds in the lonely vale,
 When Jordan hush'd his waves, and midnight still 275
 Watch'd on the holy tow'rs of Zion hill !

Soul of the just ! companion of the dead !
 Where is thy home, and whither art thou fled ?

Back to its heav'nly source thy being goes,
 Swift as the comet wheels to whence he rose ; 280
 Doom'd on his airy path a while to burn,
 And doom'd, like thee, to travel, and return.—
 Hark ! from the world's exploding centre driv'n,
 With fouds that shook the firmament of Heav'n,
 Careers the fiery giant, fast and far, 285
 On bick'ring wheels, and adamantine car ;
 From planet whirl'd to planet more remote,
 He visits realms beyond the reach of thought ;
 But, wheeling homeward, when his course is run,
 Curbs the red yoke, and mingles with the fun ! 290
 So hath the traveller of earth unfurl'd
 Her trembling wings, emerging from the world ;

And o'er the path by mortal never trod,
Sprung to her source, the bosom of her God !

Oh ! lives there, Heav'n ! beneath thy dread expanse,
One hopeless, dark Idolater of Chance, 296
Content to feed, with pleasures unrefin'd,
The lukewarm passions of a lowly mind ;
Who, mould'ring earthward, 'rest of every trust,
In joyless union wedded to the dust, 300
Could all his parting energy dismiss,
And call this barren world sufficient bliss ?—
There live, alas ! of Heav'n-directed mien,
Of cultur'd soul, and sapient eye serene,
Who hail thee, Man ! the pilgrim of a day, 305
Spouse of the worm, and brother of the clay !

Frail as the leaf in Autumn's yellow bower,

Duft in the wind, or dew upon the flower !

A friendless slave, a child without a fire,

Whose mortal life, and momentary fire,

310

Lights to the grave his chance-created form,

As ocean-wrecks illuminate the storm ;

And, when the gun's tremendous flash is o'er,

To Night and Silence sink for ever more !—

Are these the pompous tidings ye proclaim,

315

Lights of the world, and demi-gods of Fame ?

Is this your triumph—this your proud applause,

Children of Truth, and champions of her cause ?

For this hath Science search'd, on weary wing,

By shore and sea—each mute and living thing ?

320

Launch'd with Iberia's pilot from the steep,
 To worlds unknown, and isles beyond the deep?
 Or round the cope her living chariot driv'n,
 And wheel'd in triumph through the signs of Heav'n?
 Oh! star-ey'd Science, hast thou wander'd there, 325
 To waft us home the message of despair?
 Then bind the palm, thy sage's brow to suit,
 Of blasted leaf, and death-distilling fruit!
 Ah me! the laurel'd wreath that murder rears,
 Blood-nurs'd, and water'd by the widow's tears, 330
 Seems not so foul, so tainted, and so dread,
 As waves the night-shade round the sceptic head.
 What is the bigot's torch, the tyrant's chain?
 I smile on death, if Heav'n-ward Hope remain!
 But, if the warring winds of Nature's strife 335
 Be all the faithless charter of my life,

If Chance awak'd, inexorable pow'r !
This frail and fev'rish being of an hour,
Doom'd o'er the world's precarious scene to sweep,
Swift as the tempest travels on the deep, 340
To know Delight but by her parting smile,
And toil, and wish, and weep, a little while ;
Then melt, ye elements, that form'd in vain
This troubled pulse, and visionary brain !
Fade, ye wild flowers, memorials of my doom ! 345
And sink, ye stars, that light me to the tomb !
Truth, ever lovely, since the world began,
The foe of tyrants, and the friend of man,—
How can thy words from balmy slumber start
Reposing Virtue, pillow'd on the heart ! 350
Yet, if thy voice the note of thunder roll'd,
And that were true which Nature never told ;

Let Wisdom smile not on her conquer'd field ;

No rapture dawns, no treasure is reveal'd !

Oh ! let her read, nor loudly, nor elate, 355

The doom that bars us from a better fate ;

But, sad as angels for the good man's sin,

Weep to record, and blush to give it in !

And well may Doubt, the mother of Dismay,

Pause at her martyr's tomb, and read the lay, 360

Down by the wilds of yon deserted vale,

It darkly hints a melancholy tale !

There, as the homeless madman sits alone,

In hollow winds he hears a spirit moan !

And there, they say, a wizard orgie crowds, 365

When the moon lights her watch-tower in the clouds.

Poor, lost Alonzo ! Fate's neglected child !
 Mild be the doom of Heav'n—as thou wert mild !
 For oh ! thy heart in holy mould was cast,
 And all thy deeds were blameless, but the last. 370
 Poor, lost Alonzo ! still I seem to hear
 The clod that struck thy hollow-sounding bier !
 When Friendship paid, in speechless sorrow drown'd,
 Thy midnight rites, but not on hallow'd ground !

Cease, every joy, to glimmer on my mind, 375
 But leave—oh ! leave the light of Hope behind !
 What though my winged hours of bliss have been,
 Like angel-visits, few, and far between !
 Her musing mood shall every pang appease,
 And charm—when pleasures lose the power to please! 380

Yes ! let each rapture, dear to Nature, flee ;
 Close not the light of Fortune's stormy sea—
 Mirth, Music, Friendship, Love's propitious smile,
 Chase every care, and charm a little while,
 Ecstatic throbs the fluttering heart employ, 385
 And all her strings are harmoniz'd to Joy !—
 But why so short is Love's delighted hour ?
 Why fades the dew on Beauty's sweetest flow'r ?
 Why can no hymned charm of Music heal
 The sleepless woes impassion'd spirits feel ? 390
 Can Fancy's fairy hands no veil create,
 To hide the sad realities of fate ?—

No ! not the quaint remark, the sapient rule,
 Nor all the pride of Wisdom's worldly school,

Have pow'r to soothe, unaided and alone, 395
 The heart that vibrates to a feeling tone !
 When stepdame Nature every bliss recalls,
 Fleet as the meteor o'er the desert falls ;
 When, 'reft of all, yon widow'd fire appears
 A lonely hermit in the vale of years ; 400
 Say, can the world one joyous thought bestow
 To Friendship, weeping at the couch of Woe ?
 No ! but a brighter soother the last adieu,—
 Souls of impassion'd mould, she speaks to you !
 Weep not, she says, at Nature's transient pain, 405
 Congenial spirits part to meet again !—

What plaintive sobs thy filial spirit drew,
 What sorrow chok'd thy long and last adieu,

Daughter of Conrad ! when he heard his knell,
And bade his country and his child farewell ! 410
Doom'd the long isles of Sydney Cove to see,
The martyr of his crimes, but true to thee.
Thrice the sad father tore thee from his heart,
And thrice return'd, to bless thee, and to part ;
Thrice from his trembling lips he murmur'd low 415
The plaint that own'd unutterable woe ;
Till Faith, prevailing o'er his fullen doom,
As bursts the morn on night's unfathom'd gloom,
Lur'd his dim eye to deathless hopes sublime,
Beyond the realms of Nature and of Time ! 420

“ And weep not thus, (he cried) young Ellenore !
My bosom bleeds, but soon shall bleed no more !

Short shall this half-extinguish'd spirit burn,
 And soon these limbs to kindred dust return !
 But not, my child, with life's precarious fire, 425
 The immortal ties of Nature shall expire ;
 These shall resist the triumph of decay,
 When time is o'er, and worlds have pass'd away !
 Cold in the dust this perish'd heart may lie,
 But that which warm'd it once shall never die ! 430
 That spark unburied in its mortal frame,
 With living light, eternal, and the same,
 Shall beam on Joy's interminable years,
 Unveil'd by darkness—unassuag'd by tears !

“ Yet, on the barren shore and stormy deep, 435
 One tedious watch is Conrad doom'd to weep ;

But when I gain the home without a friend,
 And prefs th' uneasy couch where none attend,
 This last embrace, still cherish'd in my heart,
 Shall calm the struggling spirit ere it part ! 440
 Thy darling form shall seem to hover nigh,
 And hush the groan of life's last agony !

" Farewell ! when strangers lift thy father's bier,
 And place my nameless stone without a tear ;
 When each returning pledge hath told my child 445
 That Conrad's tomb is on the desert pil'd ;
 And when the dream of troubled fancy sees
 Its lonely rank-grafs waving in the breeze ;
 Who then will soothe thy grief, when mine is o'er ?
 Who will protect thee, helpless Ellenore ? 450

Shall secret scenes thy filial sorrows hide,
 Scorn'd by the world, to factious guilt allied?
 Ah! no; methinks the generous and the good
 Will woo thee from the shades of solitude!
 O'er friendless grief compassion shall awake,
 And smile on Innocence, for Mercy's sake!"

455

Inspiring thought of rapture yet to be,
 The tears of love were hopeless, but for thee!
 If in that frame no deathless spirit dwell,
 If that faint murmur be the last farewell!
 If fate unite the faithful but to part,
 Why is their memory sacred to the heart?
 Why does the Brother of my childhood seem
 Restor'd a while in every pleasing dream?

460

NOTES ON PART I.

Note 1. And such thy strength-inspiring aid that bore
The hardy Byron to his native shore.

The following picture of his own distress, given by Byron in his simple and interesting narrative, justifies the description in p. 10. After relating the barbarity of the Indian Cacique to his child, he proceeds thus:—"A day or two after, we put to sea again, and crossed the great bay I mentioned we had been at the bottom of, when we first hauled away to the westward. The land here

was very low and sandy, and something like the mouth of a river which discharged itself into the sea, and which had been taken no notice of by us before, as it was so shallow that the Indians were obliged to take every thing out of their canoes, and carry it over land. We rowed up the river four or five leagues, and then took into a branch of it that ran first to the eastward and then to the northward: here it became much narrower, and the stream excessively rapid, so that we gained but little way, though we wrought very hard. At night we landed upon its banks, and had a most uncomfortable lodging, it being a perfect swamp; and we had nothing to cover us, though it rained excessively. The Indians were little better off than we, as there was no wood here to make their wigwams; so that all they could do was to prop up the bark, which they carry in the bottom of their canoes, and

shelter themselves as well as they could to the leeward of it. Knowing the difficulties they had to encounter here, they had provided themselves with some seal; but we had not a morsel to eat, after the heavy fatigues of the day, excepting a sort of root we saw the Indians make use of, which was very disagreeable to the taste. We laboured all next day against the stream, and fared as we had done the day before. The next day brought us to the carrying place. Here was plenty of wood, but nothing to be got for sustenance. We passed this night as we had frequently done, under a tree; but what we suffered at this time is not easy to be expressed. I had been three days at the oar, without any kind of nourishment except the wretched root above mentioned. I had no shirt, for it had rotted off by bits. All my clothes consisted of a short grieko (something like a bear-skin), a piece of red

cloth which had once been a waistcoat, and a ragged pair of trowsers, without shoes or stockings.”

Note 2. A Briton and a friend.] Don Patricio Gedd, a Scotch physician in one of the Spanish settlements, hospitably relieved Byron and his wretched associates, of which the Commodore speaks in the warmest terms of gratitude.

Note 3. Or yield the lyre of Heav'n another string.

The seven strings of Apollo's harp were the symbolical representation of the seven planets. Herschel, by discovering an eighth, might be said to add another string to the instrument.

Note 4. The Swedish sage.] Linnæus.

Note 5. Deep from his vaults the Loxian murmurs
flow.

Loxias is a name frequently given to Apollo by Greek writers : it is met with more than once in the *Chœphoræ* of Æschylus.

Note 6. Unlocks a generous store at thy command,
Like Horeb's rocks beneath the prophet's
hand.

See Exodus, chap. xvii. 3, 5, 6.

Note 7. Wild Obi flies.] Among the negroes of the West Indies, Obi, or Obiah, is the name of a magical power, which is believed by them to affect the object of its malignity with dismal calamities. Such a belief must undoubtedly have been deduced from the superstitious my-

thology of their kinsmen on the coast of Africa. I have therefore personified Obi as the evil spirit of the African, although the history of the African tribes mentions the evil spirits of their religious creed by a different appellation.

Note 8. Sibir's dreary mines.] Mr. Bell of Antermoney, in his Travels through Siberia, informs us that the name of the country is universally pronounced Sibir by the Ruffians.

Note 9. Prefaging wrath to Poland—and to man!

The history of the partition of Poland, of the massacre in the suburbs of Warsaw, and on the bridge of Prague, the triumphant entry of Suwarrow into the Polish capital, and the insult offered to human nature, by the blas-

phemous thanks offered up to Heaven, for victories obtained over men fighting in the sacred cause of liberty, by murderers and oppressors, are events generally known.

Note 10. The shrill horn blew.] The negroes in the West Indies are summoned to their morning work by a shell or a horn.

Note 11. How long was Timur's iron sceptre sway'd?

To elucidate this passage, I shall subjoin a quotation from the Preface to Letters from a Hindoo Rajah, a work of elegance and celebrity.

“ The impostor of Mecca had established, as one of the principles of his doctrine, the merit of extending it, either by persuasion, or the sword, to all parts of the earth. How steadily this injunction was adhered to by

his followers, and with what success it was pursued, is well known to all who are in the least conversant in history.

“ The same overwhelming torrent, which had inundated the greater part of Africa, burst its way into the very heart of Europe, and covered many kingdoms of Asia with unbounded desolation, directed its baleful course to the flourishing provinces of Hindostan. Here these fierce and hardy adventurers, whose only improvement had been in the science of destruction, who added the fury of fanaticism to the ravages of war, found the great end of their conquests opposed, by objects which neither the ardour of their persevering zeal, nor savage barbarity, could surmount. Multitudes were sacrificed by the cruel hand of religious persecution, and whole countries were deluged in blood, in the vain hope, that by the de-

struction of a part, the remainder might be persuaded, or terrified into the profession of Mahomedism; but all these sanguinary efforts were ineffectual; and at length, being fully convinced, that though they might extirpate, they could never hope to convert any number of the Hindoos, they relinquished the impracticable idea, with which they had entered upon their career of conquest, and contented themselves with the acquirement of the civil dominion and almost universal empire of Hindoostan.”

Letters from a Hindoo Rajah, by Eliza Hamilton.

Note 12. And brav'd the stormy spirit of the Cape.

See the description of the Cape of Good Hope, translated from Camoens, by Mickle.

Note 13. While famish'd nations died along the shore.

The following account of British conduct, and its consequences, in Bengal, will afford a sufficient idea of the fact alluded to in this passage. After describing the monopoly of salt, betel nut, and tobacco, the historian proceeds thus: "Money in this current came but by drops; it could not quench the thirst of those who waited in India to receive it. An expedient, such as it was, remained to quicken its pace. The natives could live with little salt, but could not want food. Some of the agents saw themselves well situated for collecting the rice into stores; they did so. They knew the Gentoos would rather die than violate the principles of their religion by eating flesh. The alternative would therefore be between giving what they had, or dying. The inhabitants sunk;—they that cultivated the land, and saw the harvest at the disposal of others, planted in doubt; scarcity ensued.

Then the monopoly was easier managed—sickness ensued. In some districts the languid living left the bodies of their numerous dead unburied.”

Short History of the English Transactions
in the East Indies, page 145.

Note 14. Nine times hath Brama's wheels of lightning
hurl'd

His awful presence o'er the prostrate world!

Among the sublime fictions of the Hindoo mythology, it is one article of belief, that the Deity Brama has descended nine times upon the world in various forms, and that he is yet to appear a tenth time, in the figure of a warrior upon a white horse, to cut off all incorrigible offenders. Avatar is the word used to express his descent.

Note 15. And Camdeo bright, and Ganefa sublime.

Camdeo is the God of Love in the mythology of the Hindoos. Ganefa and Serifwattee correspond to the Pagan deities, Janus and Minerva.

NOTES ON PART II.

Note 1. The noon of manhood to a myrtle shade !

Sacred to Venus is the myrtle shade.

Dryden.

Note 2. Thy woes, Arion !] Falconer, in his poem,
The Shipwreck, speaks of himself by the name of Arion.

See Falconer's Shipwreck, Canto III.

Note 3. The Robber Moor.

See Schiller's tragedy of the Robbers, Scene V.

Note 4. What millions died that Cæsar might be great.

The carnage occasioned by the wars of Julius Cæsar has been usually estimated at two millions of men.

Note 5. Or learn the fate that bleeding thousands bore,
March'd by their Charles to Dneiper's swampy
shore.

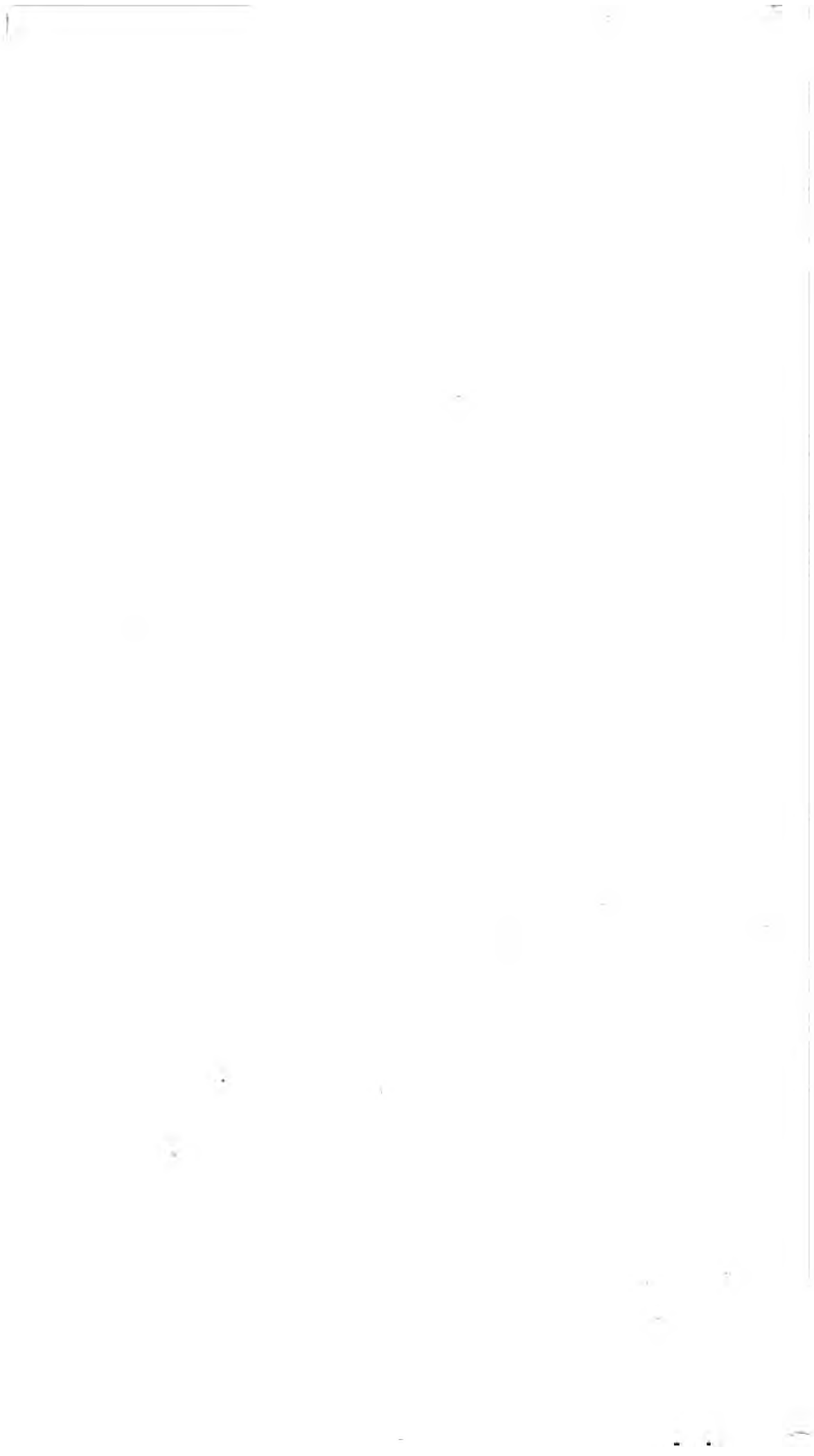
In this extremity (says the Biographer of Charles XII. of Sweden, speaking of his military exploits before the battle of Pultowa), the memorable winter of 1709, which was still more remarkable in that part of Europe than in France, destroyed numbers of his troops; for Charles resolved to brave the seasons as he had done his enemies, and ventured to make long marches during this mortal cold. It was in one of these marches that two thousand men fell down dead with cold before his eyes.

Note 6. As on Iona's height.

The natives of the island of St. Iona have an opinion, that on certain evenings every year, the tutelary faint, Columba, is seen on the top of the church spires counting the surrounding islands, to see that they have not been sunk by the power of witchcraft.

Note 7. And part, like Ajut,—never to return!

See the history of Ajut and Anningait in the Rambler.



SPECIMENS

OF

TRANSLATION FROM MEDEA.

G ij

SPECIMENS
OF
TRANSLATION FROM MEDEA.

Σκαιες δε λεγων, κεδέν τι σοφες

Τες πρόσθε βροτες εκ αν αμαρτοις.

Medea, v. 194. p. 33. Glasg. Edit.

TELL me, ye bards, whose skill sublime
First charm'd the ear of youthful Time,
With numbers wrapt in heav'nly fire ;
Who bade delighted Echo swell

The trembling transports of the lyre, 5
 The murmur of the shell,—
 Why to the burst of Joy alone
 Accords sweet Music's soothing tone?
 Why can no bard, with magic strain,
 In slumbers steep the heart of pain? 10
 While varied tones obey your sweep,
 The mild, the plaintive, and the deep,
 Bends not despairing Grief to hear
 Your golden lute, with ravish'd ear?
 Oh! has your sweetest shell no power to bind 15
 The fiercer pangs that shake the mind,
 And lull the wrath, at whose command
 Murder bares her gory hand?
 When flush'd with joy, the rosy throng
 Weave the light dance, ye swell the song! 20

Cease, ye vain warblers ! cease to charm
The breast with other raptures warm !
Cease ! till your hand with magic strain
In slumbers steep the heart of pain !



SPEECH OF THE CHORUS

IN THE SAME TRAGEDY,

To dissuade Medea from her purpose of putting her Children to death, and flying for protection to Athens.

O HAGGARD queen ! to Athens dost thou guide
Thy glowing chariot, steep'd in kindred gore ;
Or seek to hide thy damned parricide
Where Peace and Mercy dwell for ever more ?

The land where Truth, pure, precious, and sublime, 5
Woos the deep silence of sequester'd bowers,
And warriors, matchless since the first of Time,
Rear their bright banners o'er unconquer'd towers !

Where joyous Youth, to Music's mellow strain,
 Twines in the dance with Nymphs for ever fair, 10
 While Spring eternal, on the lily plain,
 Waves amber radiance through the fields of air !

The tuneful Nine (so sacred legends tell)
 First wak'd their heavenly lyre these scenes among ;
 Still in your greenwood bowers they love to dwell ; 15
 Still in your vales they swell the choral song !

For there the tuneful, chaste, Pierian fair,
 The guardian nymphs of green Parnassus, now
 Sprung from Harmonia, while her graceful hair
 Wav'd in bright auburn o'er her polish'd brow ! 20

ANTISTROPHE I.

Where silent vales, and glades of green array,
The murm'ring wreaths of cool Cephifus lave,
There, as the muse hath fung, at noon of day,
The Queen of Beauty bow'd to taste the wave !

And blest the stream, and breath'd across the land, 25
The soft sweet gale that fans yon summer bowers ;
And there the sister Loves, a smiling band,
Crown'd with the fragrant wreaths of rosy flowers !

“ And go, (she cries) in yonder valleys rove,
With Beauty's torch the solemn scenes illumine ; 30
Wake in each eye the radiant light of Love,
Breathe on each cheek young Passion's tender bloom !

Entwine, with myrtle chains, your soft controul,
 To sway the hearts of Freedom's darling kind!
 With glowing charms enrapture Wisdom's soul, 35
 And mould to grace ethereal Virtue's mind."

STROPHE II.

The land where Heaven's own hallow'd waters play,
 Where Friendship binds the generous and the good,
 Say, shall it hail thee from thy frantic way,
 Unholy woman! with thy hands embrued 40

In thine own children's gore?—oh! ere they bleed,
 Let Nature's voice thy ruthless heart appal!
 Pause at the bold, irrevocable deed—
 The mother strikes—the guiltless babes shall fall!

Think what remorse thy maddening thoughts shall sting,
 When dying pangs their gentle bosoms tear ; 46
 Where shalt thou sink, when ling'ring echoes ring
 The screams of horror in thy tortur'd ear ?

No ! let thy bosom melt to Pity's cry,—
 In dust we kneel—by sacred Heaven implore— 50
 O ! stop thy lifted arm, ere yet they die,
 Nor dip thy horrid hands in infant gore !

ANTISTROPHE II.

Say, how shalt thou that barb'rous foul assume ?
 Undamp'd by horror at the daring plan,
 Hast thou a heart to work thy children's doom ? 55
 Or hands to finish what thy wrath began ?

When o'er each babe you look a last adieu,
And gaze on Innocence that smiles asleep,
Shall no fond feeling beat, to Nature true,
Charm thee to pensive thought—and bid thee weep? 60

When the young suppliants clasp their Parent dear,
Heave the deep sob, and pour the artless prayer,—
Aye! thou shalt melt;—and many a heart-shed tear
Gush o'er the harden'd features of despair!

Nature shall throb in ev'ry tender string,— 65
Thy trembling heart the ruffian's task deny;—
Thy horror-smitten hands afar shall fling
The blade, undrench'd in blood's eternal dye!

CHORUS.

Hallow'd Earth ! with indignation

Mark, oh, mark the murd'rous deed !

70

Radiant eye of wide Creation

Watch the damned parricide !

Yet, ere Colchia's rugged daughter

Perpetrate the dire design,

And consign to kindred slaughter

75

Children of thy golden line !

Shall the hand, with murder gory,

Cause immortal blood to flow ?

Sun of Heav'n !—array'd in glory !

Rise,—forbid,—avert the blow !

80

In the vales of placid gladness

Let no rueful maniac range ;

Chafe afar the fiend of Madness,

Wrest the dagger from Revenge !

Say, hast thou, with kind protection,

85

Rear'd thy smiling race in vain ;

Fost'ring Nature's fond affection,

Tender cares, and pleasing pain ?

Hast thou, on the troubled ocean,

Brav'd the tempest loud and strong,

90

Where the waves, in wild commotion,

Roar Cyanean rocks among ?

Didst thou roam the paths of danger,

Hymenean joys to prove ?

Spare, O sanguinary stranger,

95

Pledges of thy sacred love !

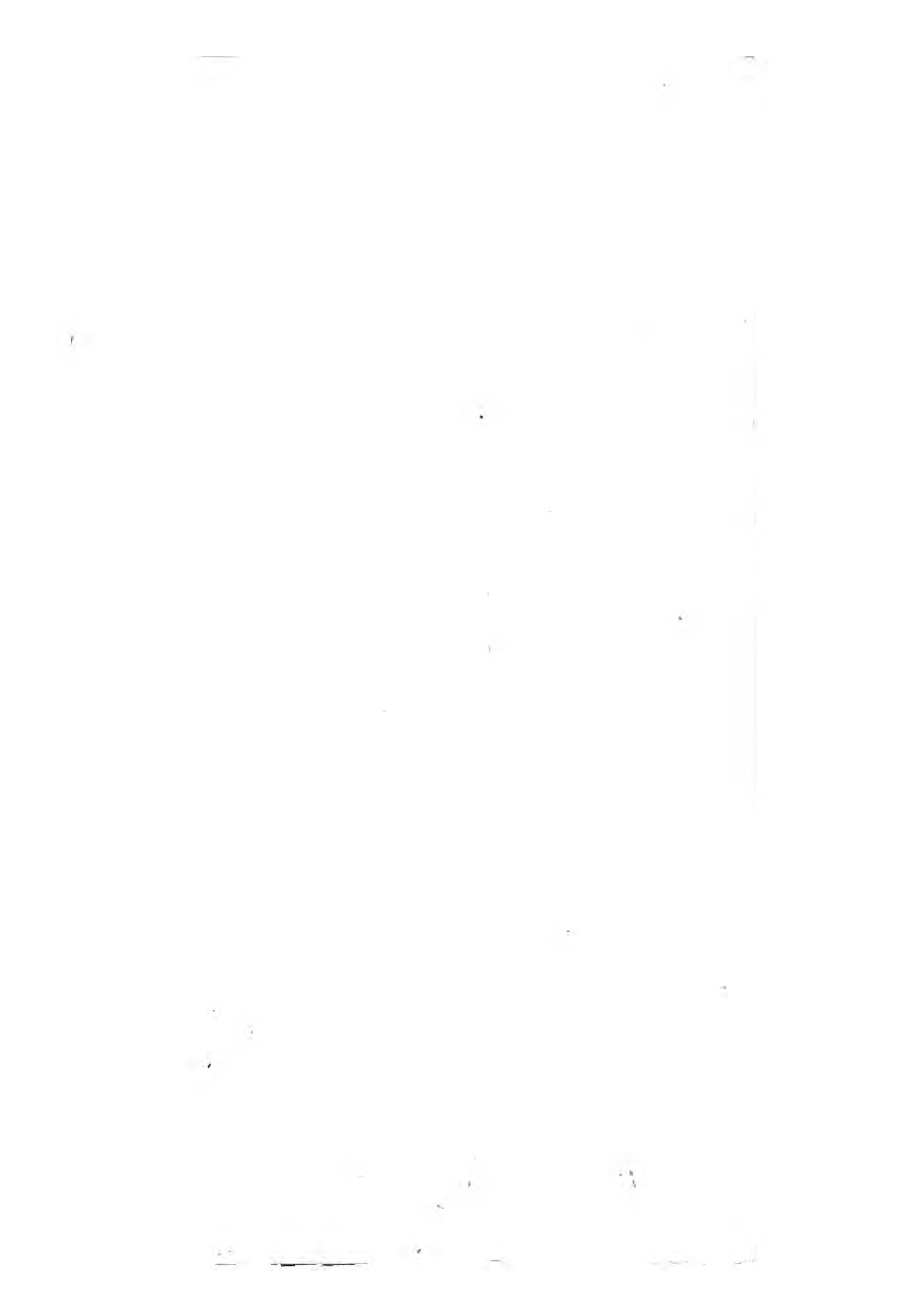
Shall not Heaven, with indignation,

Watch thee o'er the barb'rous deed ?

Shalt thou cleanse, with expiation,

Monstrous, murd'rous, parricide ?

100

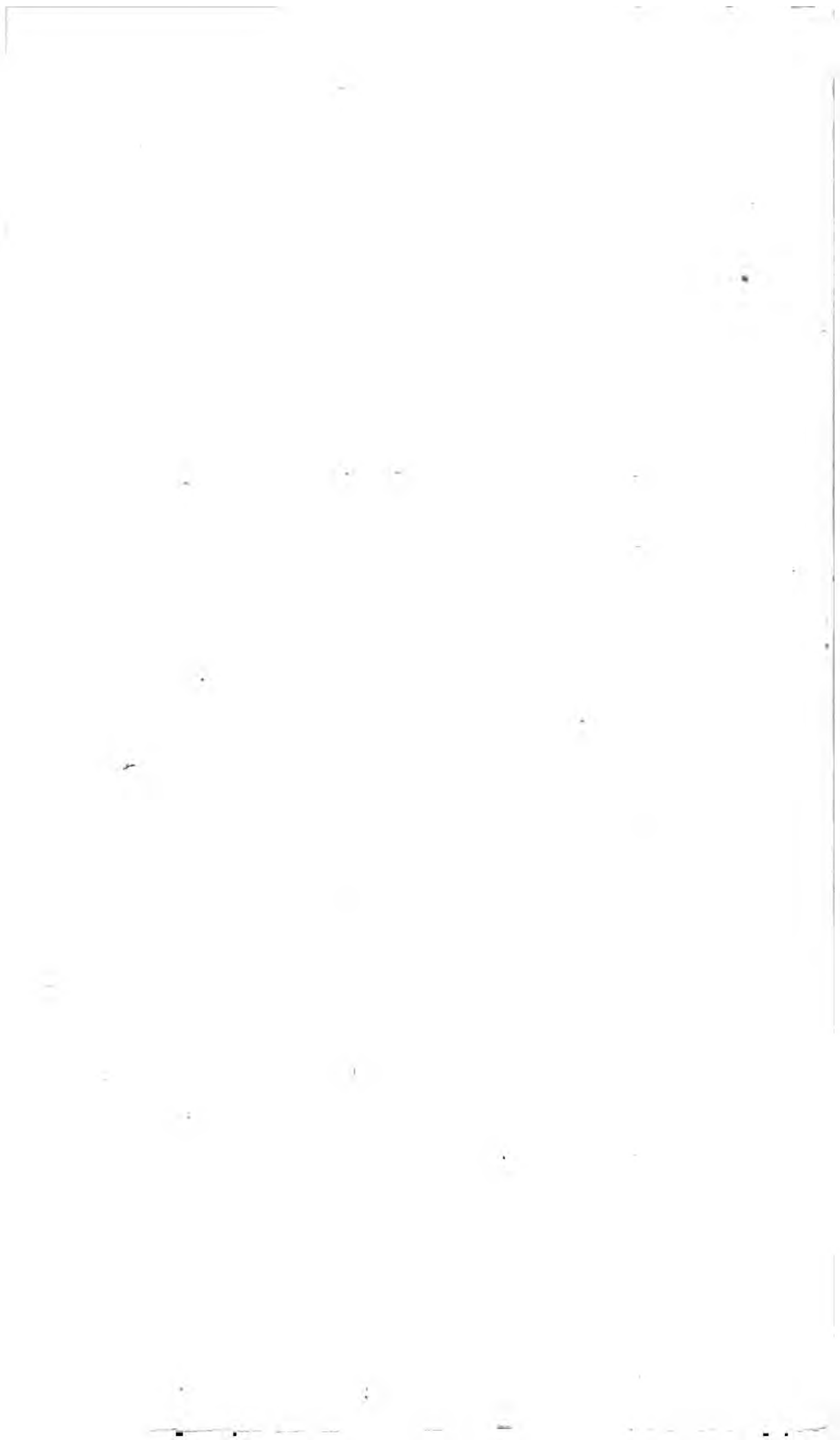


LOVE AND MADNESS ;

AN ELEGY.

WRITTEN IN 1795.

8 ij



When youthful Hope, the music of the mind,
 Tun'd all its charms, and E——n was kind ! 10

“ Yet, can I cease, while glows this trembling frame,
 In sighs to speak thy melancholy name !
 I hear thy spirit wail in every storm !
 In midnight shades I view thy passing form !
 Pale as in that sad hour, when doom'd to feel, 15
 Deep in thy perjur'd heart the bloody steel !

“ Demons of Vengeance ! ye at whose command
 I grasp'd the sword with more than woman's hand,
 Say ye, did Pity's trembling voice controul,
 Or horror damp the purpose of my soul ? 20
 No ! my wild heart sat smiling o'er the plan,
 Till Hate fulfill'd what baffled Love began !

“ Yes ; let the clay-cold breast, that never knew
One tender pang to generous Nature true,
Half-mingling pity with the gall of scorn, 25
Condemn this heart that bled in love forlorn !

“ And ye, proud fair, whose souls no gladness warms,
Save Rapture’s homage to your conscious charms !
Delighted idols of a gaudy train !
Ill can your blunter feelings guess the pain, 30
When the fond faithful heart, inspir’d to prove
Friendship refin’d, the calm delight of love,
Feels all its tender strings with anguish torn,
And bleeds at perjur’d Pride’s inhuman scorn !

“ Say, then, did pitying Heav’n condemn the deed, 35
When Vengeance bade thee, faithless lover ! bleed ?

Long had I watch'd thy dark foreboding brow,
 What time thy bosom scorn'd its dearest vow !
 Sad, though I wept the friend, the lover chang'd,
 Still thy cold look was scornful and estrang'd, 40
 Till from thy pity, love, and shelter thrown,
 I wander'd, hopeless, friendless, and alone !

“ Oh ! righteous Heav'n ! 'twas then my tortur'd soul
 First gave to wrath unlimited controul !
 Adieu the silent look ! the streaming eye ! 45
 The murmur'd plaint ! the deep heart-heaving sigh !
 Long slumb'ring Vengeance wakes to better deeds ;
 He shrieks, he falls, the perjur'd Lover bleeds !
 Now the last laugh of agony is o'er,
 And pale in blood he sleeps, to wake no more ! 50

Once more I see thy sheeted spectre stand,
Roll the dim eye, and wave the paly hand !

“ Soon may this fluttering spark of vital flame
Forfake its languid melancholy frame !
Soon may these eyes their trembling lustre close,
Welcome the dreamless night of long repose !
Soon may this woe-worn spirit seek the bourne
Where, lull'd to slumber, Grief forgets to mourn !”



Lines

Written on visiting a scene
in

Argyleshire.

At the silence of twilight's contemplative hour,
I have mus'd in a sorrowful mood
On the wind-shaken weeds that enlure the bower
Where the home of my forefathers stood ---
All ruin'd & wild is their roofless abode ---
And lonely the dark raven's sheltering tree ---
And travell'd by few is the grass cover'd road ---
Where the hunter of deer & the Warrior trode ---
To his hills that encircle the sea. ---

Yet wandering, I found, on my ruinous walk,
 By the dial-stone aged and green,
 One rose of the wilderness left on its stalk,
 To mark where a garden had been:
 Like a brotherless hermit, the last of its race,
 All wild in the silence of Nature it drew...
 From each wandering sunbeam a lonely
 For the nightward within overshadowed the place -
 When the flower of my forefathers grew.

Sweet bud of the wilderness, emblem of all
 That remains in my desolate heart -
 The fabric of bliss to its centre may fall -
 But patience shall never depart -
 Though the scenes of enchantment all ^{vernal}
 In the days of delusion by fancy combin'd - ^{so bright}

With inc vanishing phantoms of love & delight,
 Abandon my soul like a dream of the night —
 And leave but a desert behind. —

Be hush'd my dark spirit! for wisdom condemns —
 When the faint & the feeble deplore —
 Be strong as the rock of the Ocean that stems —
 A thousand wild waves on the shore —

Through the perils of chance & the scowl of disdain —
 May thy front be unalter'd, thy courage elate:
 Yea even the name I have worshipp'd in vain —
 Shall awake not the sigh of remembrance again —
 To bear is to conquer our fate —

THE
BEECH TREE'S

Petition.

*O leave this little spot to me
Spare woodman spare the beechen tree —*

*Though shrub or flower never grow
My dark unwarming shade below,
Nor fruits of Autumn blossom born
My green & glossy leaves adorn —*

Not murmuring tribes from me derive
 Th' ambrosial amber of the hive;
 Yet leave this barren spot to me
 Spare woodman spare the beechen tree.

Thrice twenty summers I have stood
 In bloomless fruitless solitude -
 Since Childhood first beneath my bowers -
 Hath spent its sweet & sportive hour -
 Since youthful lovers in my shades
 Their vows of truth & rapture made -
 And on my trunk's surviving frame
 Carv'd many a long forgotten name -
 Oh by the vows of gentle sound
 First breath'd upon this sacred ground -

By all that Love hath whisper'd here,
Or beauty heard with ravish'd ear.
As Love's own altar honor me,
Spare Woodman spare the beechen tree —

ODE

to Winter. —

When first the fiery mantled Sun
His heavenly race began to run —
Around the Earth & Ocean blue
His children four the seasons flow —
First in green apparel dancing
The young spring came with angel grace —
Rosy summer next advancing
Rushed into her sire's embrace —

Her bright-haired sire who bade her keep
 For ever nearest to his smiles —

On Calpe's sun-shaded Steep
 Or India's citron-cov'ring isles —

More remote & luxuriant brown

The queen of bunting bow'd before his throne —

A rich pomegranate gemm'd her crown —

A ripe sheaf bound her zone —

But howling Winter fled afar

To hills that prop the polar star —

And loves on deer-born car to ride

With barren darkness by his side —

Around the shore where loud Loofoden —

Whirls to death the roaring whales;
 Around the Hall where Runic Odin —
 Howls his dirge-song to the gale —
 Save when adown the savage'd globe —
 He travels on his native storm —
 Deflow'ring Nature's grassy robe
 And trampling on her faded form —
 Till Light's returning Lord asumes
 The shaft that drives him to his northern
 Of power to pierce his raven plume —
 And crystal cover'd shield. —

O Sire of storms whose savage ear
 The Lapland drum delights to hear —

When Frenzy with her bloodshot eyes -
 Implores thy dreadful Deity -
 Arch-Angel power of desolation!
 Just descending as thou art -
 Say hath mortal incantation
 Spells to touch thy stony heart
 Then rugged Winter hear my prayer -
 And gently rule the round year -
 Nor chill the wanderer's bosom bare -
 Nor freeze the wretch's falling tear -
 To shivering warts unmantled bed
 Thy horror-breathing Agues cease to lend
 And mildly on the Orphan head -
 Of Innocence descend ———

But chiefly spare O King of clouds!¹
 The sailor on his airy shrouds —
 When wrecks & beacons strew the steep —
 And Spectres walk along the deep —
 Milder yet thy snowy breezes —
 Pout on yonder tented shores —
 Where the Rhine's broad billow freezes
 Or the dark brown Danube roars —
 O winds of winter list ye there
 To many a deep & dying groan ≠
 Or start ye demons of the midnight air
 At shrieks & thunders louder than your
 own —

≠ The above lines were written during the continental war in 1800 —

Alas ev'n your unhallow'd breath
May spare the victim fallen low;
But man will ask no truce to death —
No bounds to human foe —

CAROLINE

Part First.

I'll bid the hyacinth to blow -

I'll teach my grotto green to be -

And sing my true love all below -

The holly hower & myrtle tree -

There, all his wood-wild notes to bring,
 The sweet south wind shall wander by,
 And with the music of his wing -
 Delight my rustling canopy. -

Come to my close & clustering bowet -
 Thou spirit of a milder clime -
 Fresh with the dews of fruit & flow'r -
 Of mountain heath & moory thyme -

With all thy rural echoes come -
 Sweet comrade of the rosy Day -
 Wafting the wild bees gentle hum
 Or cuckoo's plaintive roundelay -

Where'er thy morning feet have stray'd -
 Whatever isles of Ocean fann'd -
 Come to my blossom-woven shade -
 Thou wandering wind of Fairyland -

For sure from some enchanted isle -
 Where Heaven & Love their sabbath hold -
 Where pure & happy spirits smile -
 Of beauty's freshest fairest mould -

From some green island of the deep -
 Where pleasure's sigh alone is heav'd -
 Where tears of rapture lovers weep -
 Endear'd undoubting undeceiv'd -

From some sweet paradise afar -
 Thy beauty wanders distant lost -
 Where nature lights her leading star -
 And love is never never crossed. -

O gentle gale of Eden-bowers!
 If back thy printless steps should roam -
 To revel with the cloudless hours -
 In nature's more propitious home -

Name to thy loved Elysian groves -
 That our enchanted spirits twine --
 A fairer form than cherub loves -
 And let the name be *Caroline*

CAROLINE.

Part. second.—

Gem of the crimson-colour'd Even!—

Companion of retiring day!

Why at the closing gates of Heav'n

Belov'd star dost thou delay?

So fair thy pensile beauty burns —
 When soft the tear of twilight flows —
 So due thy plighted step returns —
 To chambers brighter than the rose —

To peace to pleasure & to love —
 So kind a star thou seem'st to be —
 Sure some enamour'd orb above —
 Descends & burns to meet with thee —

Thine is the breathing blushing hour —
 When all unheavenly passions fly,
 Chaotic by the soul subduing power
 Of Love's delicious witchery —

O sacred to the fall of day -
 Queen of profusions stars be near -
 And early rise & long delay -
 When Caroline herself is here -

Shine on her chosen green resort -
 Whose trees the sunward summit crown -
 And wanton flowers that will may court -
 An angel's feet to tread them down -

Shine on her sweetly scented road
 Thou star of evening's purple dome -
 That lead'st the nightingale abroad
 And guid'st the pilgrim to his home. -

There where my charmer's sweeter breath,
 Embalms thy soft exhaling dew -
 Where dying winds a sigh bequeath -
 To kiss the cheek of rosy hue. -

When winnow'd by the gentle air,
 Her silken tresses darkly flow;
 And fall upon her brow so fair,
 Like shadows on the mountain snow. -

Thus ever thus at day's decline,
 In converse sweet to wander far,
 Oh bring with thee my Caroline
 And thou shalt be my ruling star -

GERMAN

Drinking Song.

Sweet Is it were thy sunny bowers,

And flowery fountains mine,

Thy waters I would shade with Elm,

To prop the tender vine:

My golden flaggons I would fill,

With rosy draughts from every hill,

And under each green spreading bowers

My gay companions should prolong—

The least the reed & the song —
To many a jocund heart. —

Like rivers crimson'd by the beam
Of yonder planet bright,
Our golden cups should ever stream,
Profusion of delight.
No care should touch the mellow heart,
And sad or sober none depart;
For wine can triumph over woe;
And Love & Bacchus, brother powers,
Could build on Isos' sunny bowers,
A paradise below. —

THE

EXILE of ERIN.

There came to the beach a poor Exile of Erin,
 The dew on his thin robe was heavy & chill;
 For his Country he sighed when at twilight
 To wander alone by the wind beaten hill ^{refraining} —

But the day-star attracted his eyes sad & distant,
 For it rose o'er his own native isle of the Ocean —
 When once in the fire of his youthful emotion —
 He sung the bold anthem of Erin go bragh —

"Sad is my fate (said the heart-broken stranger).
 The wild deer & wolf to a covert can flee -
 But I have no refuge from famine & danger -
 A home and a Country remain not to me -
 Never again in the green sunny bowers
 Where my forefathers lie'd shall I spend the sweet ^{hours}
 Or cover my harp with the wild woven flowers -
 And strike to the numbers of Erin's bough -

Erin my country, tho' sad & forsaken,
 In dreams I revisit thy sea-beaten shore -
 But alas in a far-foreign land I awaken -
 And sigh for the friends who can meet me no more -
 Oh my sad fate wilt thou never replace me -
 In a mansion of peace where no perils can
 chase me -

Yet all its fond recollection suppressing,
 One dying wish my low bosom shall draw;
 Erin an Exile bequeaths thee his blessing -
 Land of my forefathers Erin-go-bragh!
 Buried & cold when my heart stills her motion,
 Green be thy fields sweetest isle of the
 And thy hark-striking bards sing aloud with emotion ^{Ocean}
 Erin ma vournin Erin go bragh. ✱

✱ Ireland forever Ireland my darling -

Written on seeing
 The Body of a Suicide exposed
 unclaimed -

By strangers left upon a lonely shore
 Unknown unhome'd was the friendless dead -
 But child to weep or widow to deplore -
 There never came to his unburied head -
 All from his cheerless habitation fled.
 Nor will the lantern'd fisherman at eve,
 Launch on that water by the witch's tower,
 Where hellebore & hemlock seem to weave
 Around its dark vaults a melancholy bow,
 For spirits of the dead at night's enchanted
 hand -

They dread to meet thee poor Unfortunate!
 Whose crime it was on life's unfinished road -
 To feel the stepidemic buffettings of fate -
 And render back thy being's heavy load.
 Ah once perhaps the social passions glow'd
 In thy devoted bosom ~~and~~ the hand -
 That smote its kindred heart might yet be prone
 To deeds of Mercy - Who can understand.
 Thy many woes poor Suicide unknown -
 He who thy being gave shall Judge of
 Thee alone. -

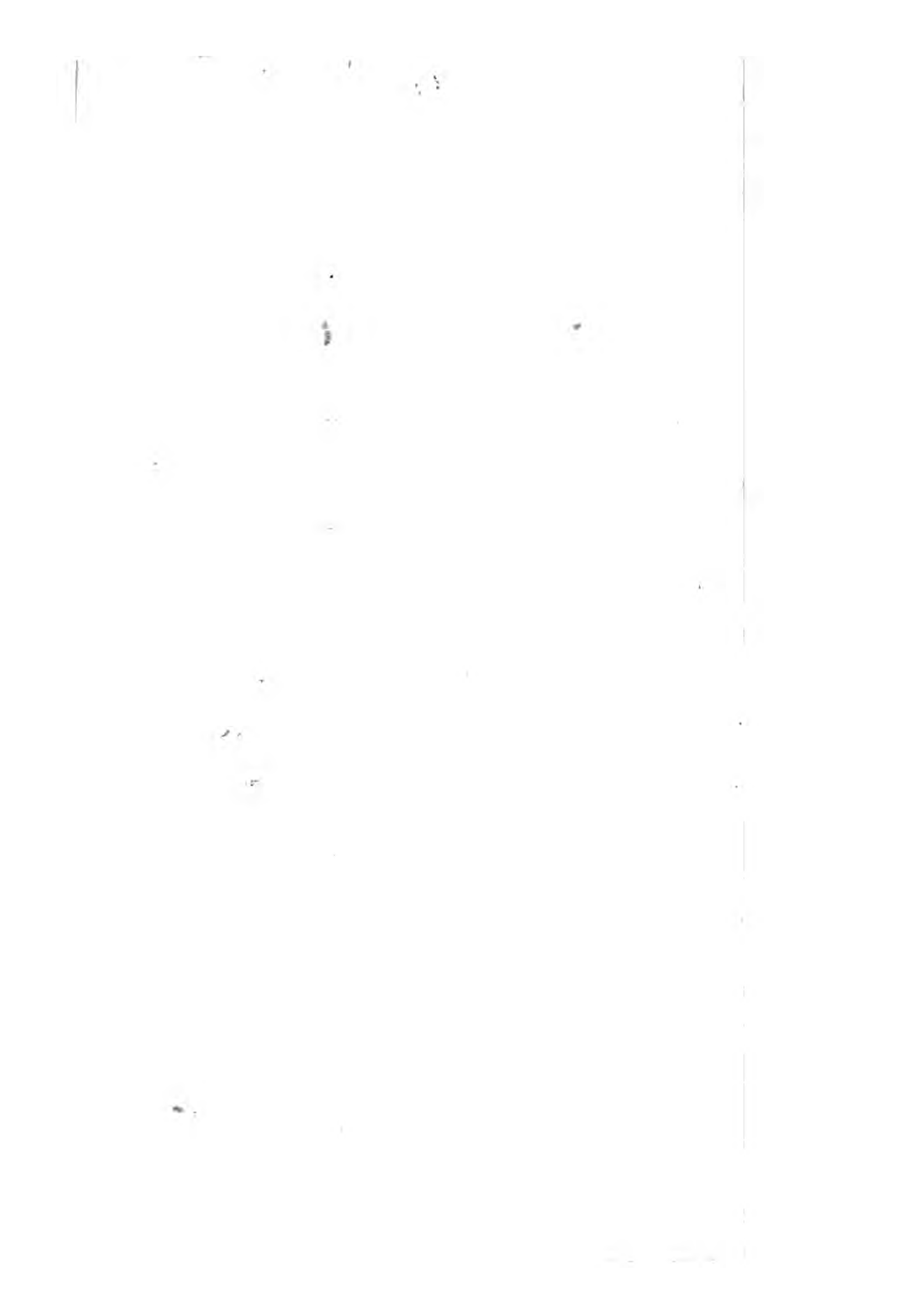
S O N G

for the tune of

YE GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND.

Composed on the prospect of a

Russian War in Feb^r. 1801 —



I.

Ye Mariners of England !
 That guard our native seas,
 Whose flag has brav'd a thousand years —
 The battle & the breeze —
 Your glorious standard launch again
 To match another Joe' —

Chorus And sweep thro' the deep

And sweep thro' the deep
 While the stormy tempests blow —
 While the battle rages loud & long —
 And the stormy tempests blow —

II

The spirits of your Fathers
 Shall start from every wave —

For the deck it was their field of fame —
 And Ocean was their grave —
 Where Blake the boat of freedom fell
 Your manly hearts shall glow —
 As ye sweep thro' the deep —
 While the stormy tempests blow —
 While the battle rages loud & long
 And the stormy tempests blow —

III.

Britannia needs no bulwark
 No towers along the steep —
 Her march is o'er the Mountain waves
 Her home is on the deep →

With thunders from her native oak
 She quells the floods below —
 As they roar on the shores —
 When the stormy tempests blow —
 When the battle rages loud & long
 And the stormy tempests blow —

I V.

The Meteor flag of England
 Must yet terrific burn —
 Till dangers troubled night depart —
 And the star of peace return —
 Then then ye Ocean warriors
 Our song & feast shall flow —

To the fame of your names
When the tempests cease to blow —
When the fiery fight is heard no more —
And the tempests cease to blow —

C D E

to PAINTING.



Ode to Painting.

I thou by whose expressive art —
 Her perfect image Nature sees —
 In union with the Graces start —
 And sweeter by reflection please —

In whose creative hand the hues
 Stolen from yon orient rainbow shine —
 I bless thee promethian Muse.
 And call thee brightest of the nine —

Possessing more than vocal power -
 Persuasive more than poet's tongue -
 Whose lineage in a raptur'd hour -
 From Love the lord of Nature sprung - *

Does Hope his high possession meet?
 Is Joy triumphant? sorrow flown?
 Sweet is the trance! the tremor sweet!
 When all we love is all our own.

But oh thou pulse of pleasure dead!
 How throbbing cold I feel thee part -
 Lone absence plants a pang severe
 Or death inflicts a keener dart

* Alluding ^{to} the well known tradition respecting the origin of
 Painting from the sketch of a profile which a Corinthian girl
 traced on the wall while her lover lay asleep —

Then for a beam of Joy to light
 In Memory's sad & wakeful eye -
 Or banish from the noon of night -
 Her dreams of deeper agony -

Shall Song its witching cadence roll -
 Yea e'en the tenderest air repeat -
 That breath'd when soul was knit to soul -
 And heart to heart responsive beat -

What visions wake to charm - to melt -
 The lost the lov'd the dead are near -
 Oh hush that strain too deeply felt -
 And cease that solace too severe -

Possessing more than vocal power—
 Persuasive more than poet's tongue—
 Whose lineage in a rapier's hour—
 From Love the lord of Nature sprung*

Does Hope his high possession meet?
 Is Joy triumphant? sorrow flown?
 Sweet is the trance! the tremor sweet!
 When all we love is all our own.

But oh thou pulse of pleasure dead!
 How throbbing cold I feel thee part—
 Lone absence plants a pang severe
 Or death inflicts a keener dart

* Alluding ^{to} the well known tradition respecting the origin of
 Painting from the sketch of a profile which a Corinthian girl
 traced on the wall while her lover lay asleep —

Then for a beam of Joy to light
 In Memory's sad & weakful eye -
 Or banish from the noon of night -
 Her dreams of deepest agony -

Shall Song its witching cadence roll -
 Yea w'n the tenderest air repeat -
 That breath'd when soul was knit to soul -
 And heart to heart responsive beat -

What visions wake to charm to melt -
 The lost the lov'd the dead are near -
 Oh hush that strain too deeply felt -
 And cease that solace too severe -

But thou serenely silent Art!
 By heav'n & love wast taught to lend —
 A milder solace to the heart —
 The sacred image of a friend. —

All is not lost, if yet possess'd
 To me that sweet memorial shine —
 If close & closer to my breast —
 I hold that idol all divine —

Or gazing through luxurious tears
 Melt o'er the lov'd departed form —
 Till death's cold image half appears
 With life & speech & spirit warm —

She looks! she lives - this tranced hour
 Her bright eye seems a purer gem -
 Than sparkles on the throne of power -
 At glory's wealthy diadem -

Yes genius yes! thy mimic aid
 A treasure to my soul has given -
 Where beauty's canonized shade,
 Smiles in the sainted hues of heaven -

No spectre forms of pleasure fled
 Thy softening sweetening tints restore -
 For thou canst give us back the dead
 E'en in the lowliest looks they wore.

Then blest be Nature's guardian Muse
 whose hand her perish'd grace redeems -
 whose tablet of a thousand hues -
 The mirror of creation seems. -

From Love began thy high descent,
 And lovers charm'd by gifts of thine -
 Shall bless thee - mulely eloquent -
 And call thee; brightest of the Nine -

HOHINLINDEN.



HOHLINDEN

On Linden when the sun was low,
 All bloodless lay th' untrodden snow—
 And dark as winter was the flow
 Of Iser rolling rapidly—

2

But Linden saw another sight
 When the drum beat at dead of night—
 Commanding fires of death to light—
 The darkness of her scenery—

3

By torch & trumpet fast array'd—
 Each horseman drew his battle blade—
 And furious every charger neigh'd
 To join the dreadful revelry—

Then shook the hills, with thunder riven,
 Then flew the steed, to battle driv'n —
 And louder than the bolts of Heav'n —
 Far flash'd their red artillery —

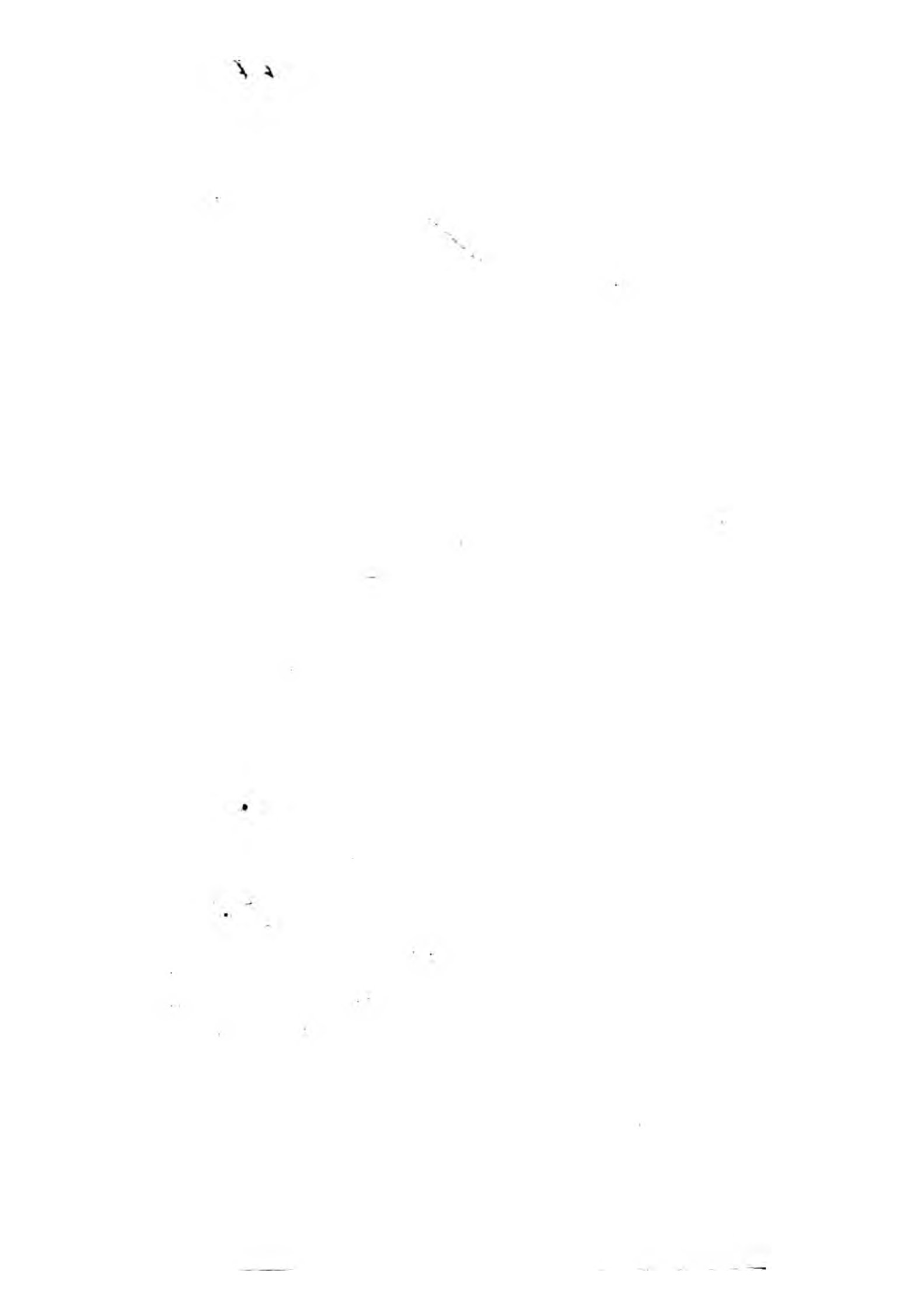
But redder yet that light shall glow —
 On Linden's hills of stained snow —
 And bloodier yet the torrent flow —
 Of Isar rolling rapidly. —

'Tis Morn' — but scarce yon level sun
 Can pierce the war-clouds rolling dun —
 Where furious Frank & fiery Hun
 Shout in their sulphurous canopy. —

The combat deepens 'on ye brave.'
That rush to glory or the grave —
Wave Munich all thy banners wave —
And charge with all thy chivalry —

Few few shall part where many meet;
The snow shall be your winding sheet —
And every turf beneath your feet —
Shall be a soldier's sepulchre —

Lochiel's
Warning



Lochiel 66

Wizard.

Lochiel Lochiel! beware of the day
When the Lowlands shall meet thee in battle array --
For a field of the dead rushes red on my sight,
And the clans of Cullodden are scattered in fight --
They rally, they bleed, for their kingdom & crown --
Woe woe to the riders that trample them down --
Proud Cumberland franchises insulting the slain --
And their hoof beaten bosoms are trod to the plain --

But hark thro' the fast flashing lightning of war --
What steed to the desert flies frantic & far?
Tis thine oh Glenullin! whose bride shall await,
Like a love lighted watchfire all night at the gate --

A steed comes at morning - no rider is there -
 But its bridle is red with the sign of despair -
 Heep Albin to death & captivity led -
 O weep! but thy tears cannot number the dead -
 For a merciless sword on Cullodden shall wave -
 Cullodden that reeks with the blood of the brave -

Lochiel.

Go preach to the coward - thou death telling fear -
 Or of gory Cullodden so dreadful appear -
 Draw cloud around thy old wavering sight -
 This mantle to cover the phantoms of fright -

Wizard.

Ha laughst thou Lochiel my vision to scorn?
 Proud bird of the mountain thy plume shall be
 torn -

Day rushed the bold eagle exultingly forth —
 From his home in the dark rolling clouds of the North —
 To the death-shot of foemen outspeeding he soke —
 Companionless bearing destruction abroad —
 But down let him stoop from his havoc on high —
 Ah home let him speed for the spoiler is nigh —
 Why flames the far summit - why shoot to the blast
 Those embers like stars from the firmament cast ?
 'Tis the fire-show's of ruin all dreadfully driven —
 From his eyrie that beacons the darkness of Heaven —
 Oh created Lochiel the peerless in might —
 Whose banners arise on the battlements' height —
 Heaven's fire is around thee - to blast & to burn —
 Return to thy dwelling - all lonely - return —

For the blackness of ashes shall mark where it stood —
 And a wild mother scream o'er her gashing brood —

Lochiel.

'False Nigard auncle!' — I have marshalled my clan
 Whose swords are a thousand whose bosoms are one —
 They are true to the last of their blood & their breath —
 And like reapers descend to the harvest of death —
 They welcome be Cumberland's steed to the stick
 Let him dash his proud foam like a wave on the rock —
 But woe to his kindred & woe to his cause —
 When Albin her claymore indignantly draws —
 When her bonnetted chieftains to victory crowd
 Blansanald the dauntless & Moray the proud —

All plaided & plumed in their tartan array.—

Wizard abruptly—

—Lochiel Lochiel beware of the day!—

For dark & despairing my sight I may seal—

But man cannot cover what God would reveal—

'Tis the sunset of life gives me mystical love,

And coming events cast their shadows before.

I tell thee Cullodden's wild echoes shall ^{ring}

With the bloodhounds that bark for thy fugitive king:

So anointed by Heaven with the vials of wrath—

Behold where he flies on his desolate path.—

Now in darkness & billows he sweeps from my

Rise rise ye wild tempests & cover his flight.—
(sight!)

'Tis finish'd — their thunders are hush'd on the Moors —
Cullodden is lost, & my country deplores —

But where is the iron-bound prisoner? — where?
(For the red eye of battle is shut in despair.)

Say mounts he the Ocean wave banish'd forlorn —
Like a limb from his country cast bleeding & torn —

Ah no! for a darker departure is near

The war-drum is muffled & black is the bier —

His death-bell is tolling — Oh mercy dispell —

Yon sight that it freezes my spirit to tell —

Life flutters convuls'd in his quivering limbs —

And his blood streaming nostril in agony

Accurs'd be the faggots that blaze at his ^{swims +} feet —

There his heart shall be thrown ere it ceases to
beat.

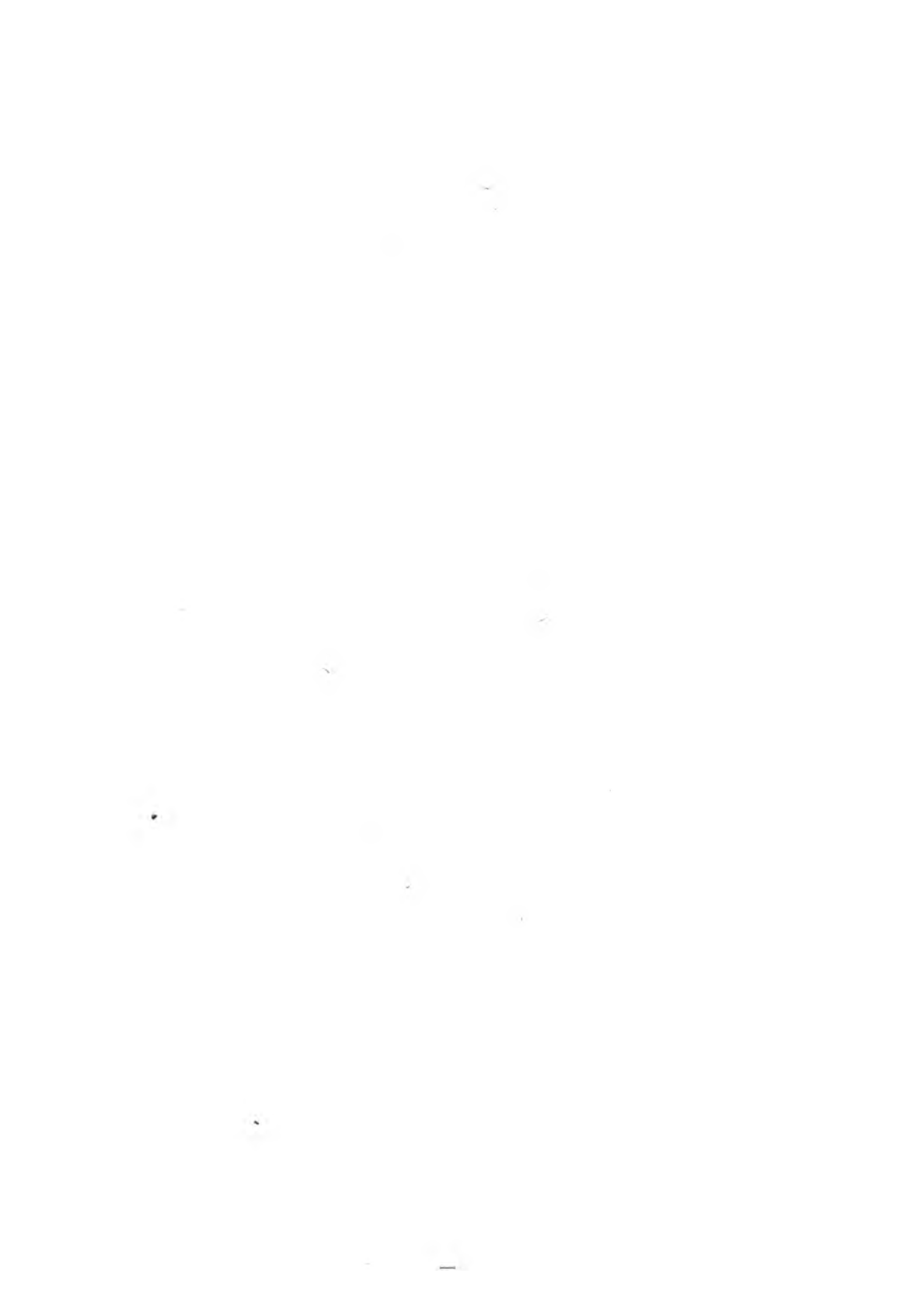
With the smoke of its ashes to poison the gale —

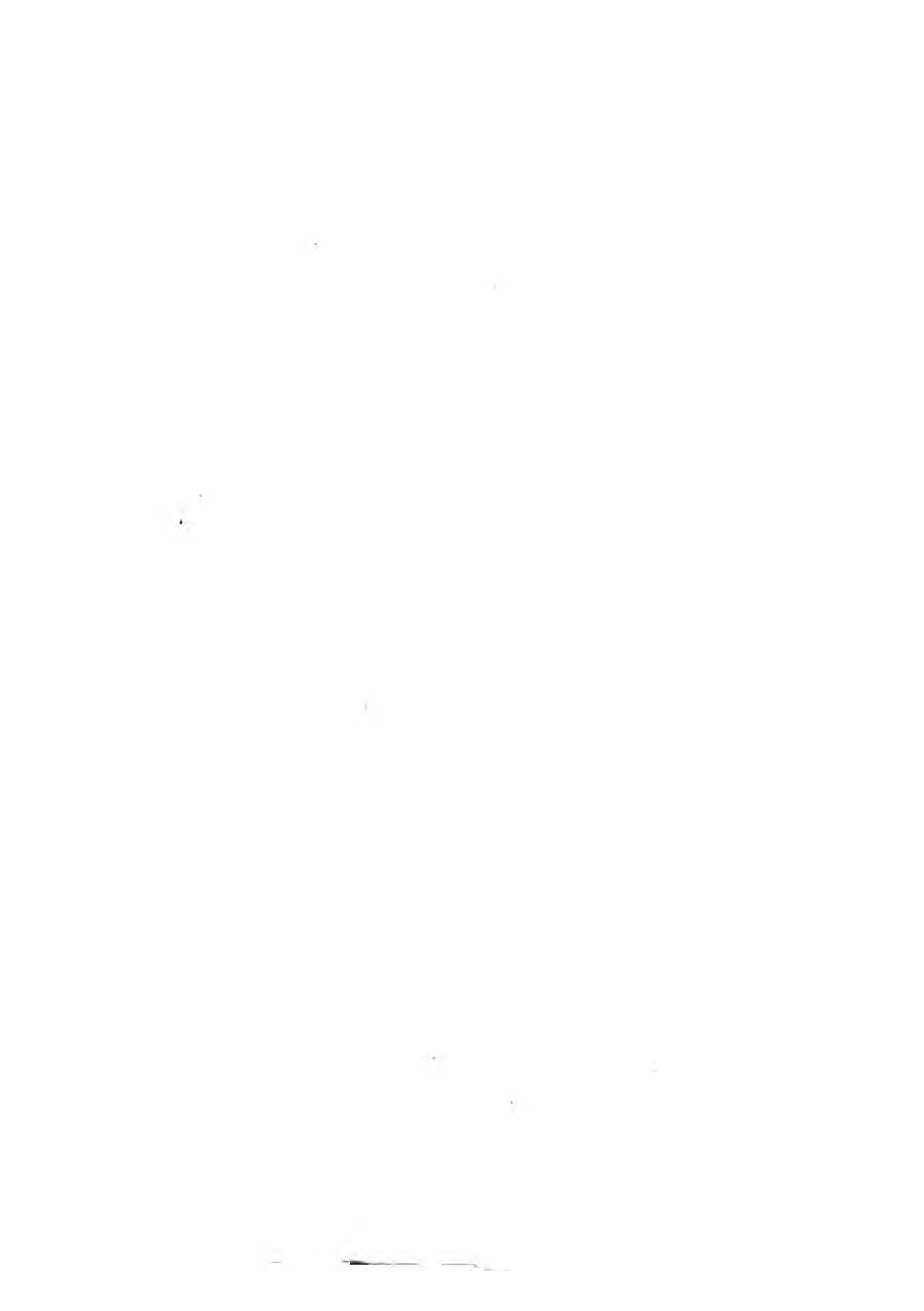
Lochiel. —

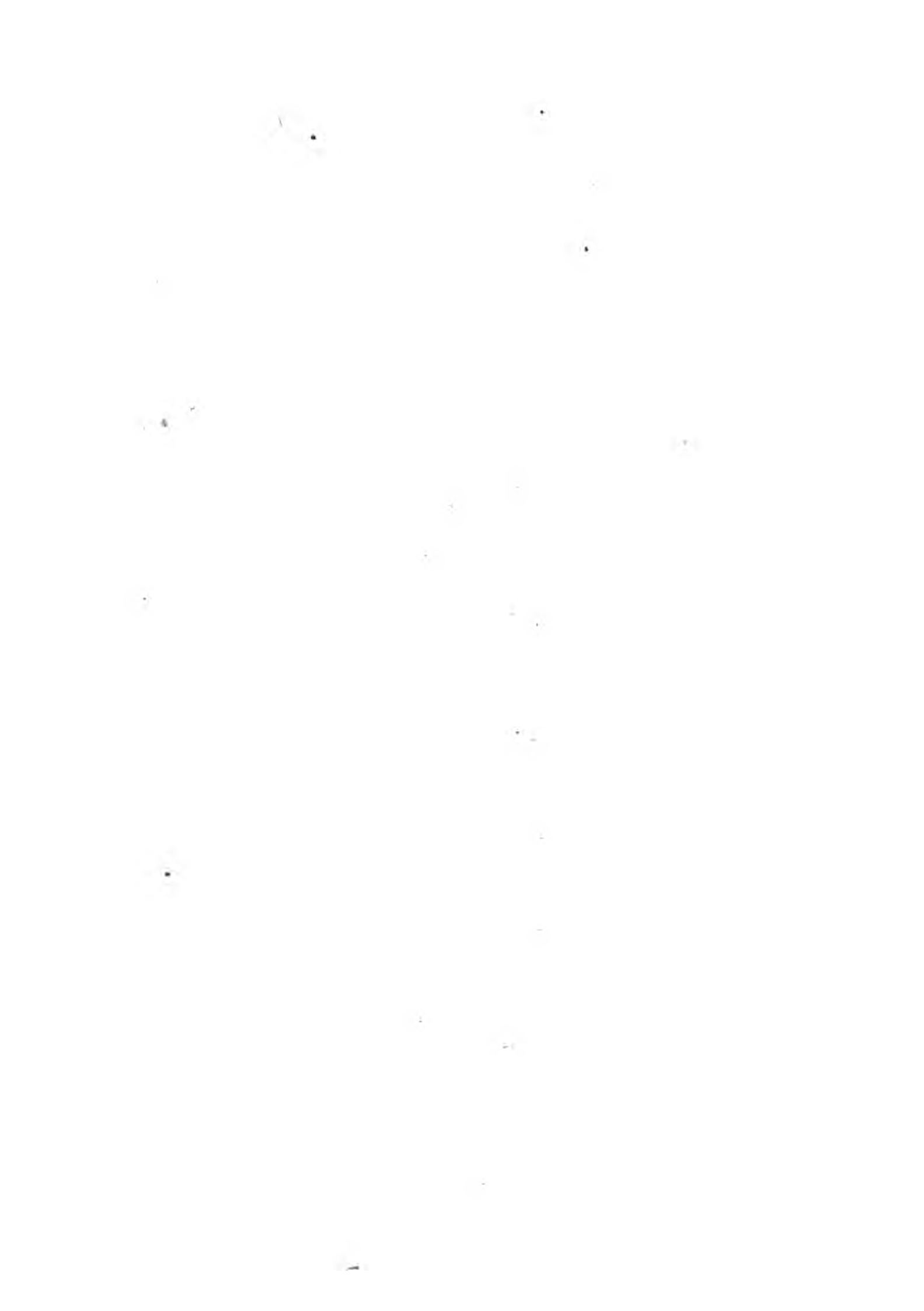
Down soothsayer's insulter! I trust not the tale
 For never shall Albin a destiny meet —
 So black with dishonor so foul with retreat —
 Though my perishing ranks should be strew'd in
 Like Ocean weeds heap'd on the tempest's shore —
 Lochiel untainted by flight or by chains —
 While the kindling of life in his bosom remains —
 Shall victor exult, or in death be laid low,
 With his back to the field, & his feet to the foe —
 And leaving in battle no blot on his name —
 Look proudly to heav'n from the deathbed of
 Jamie. —

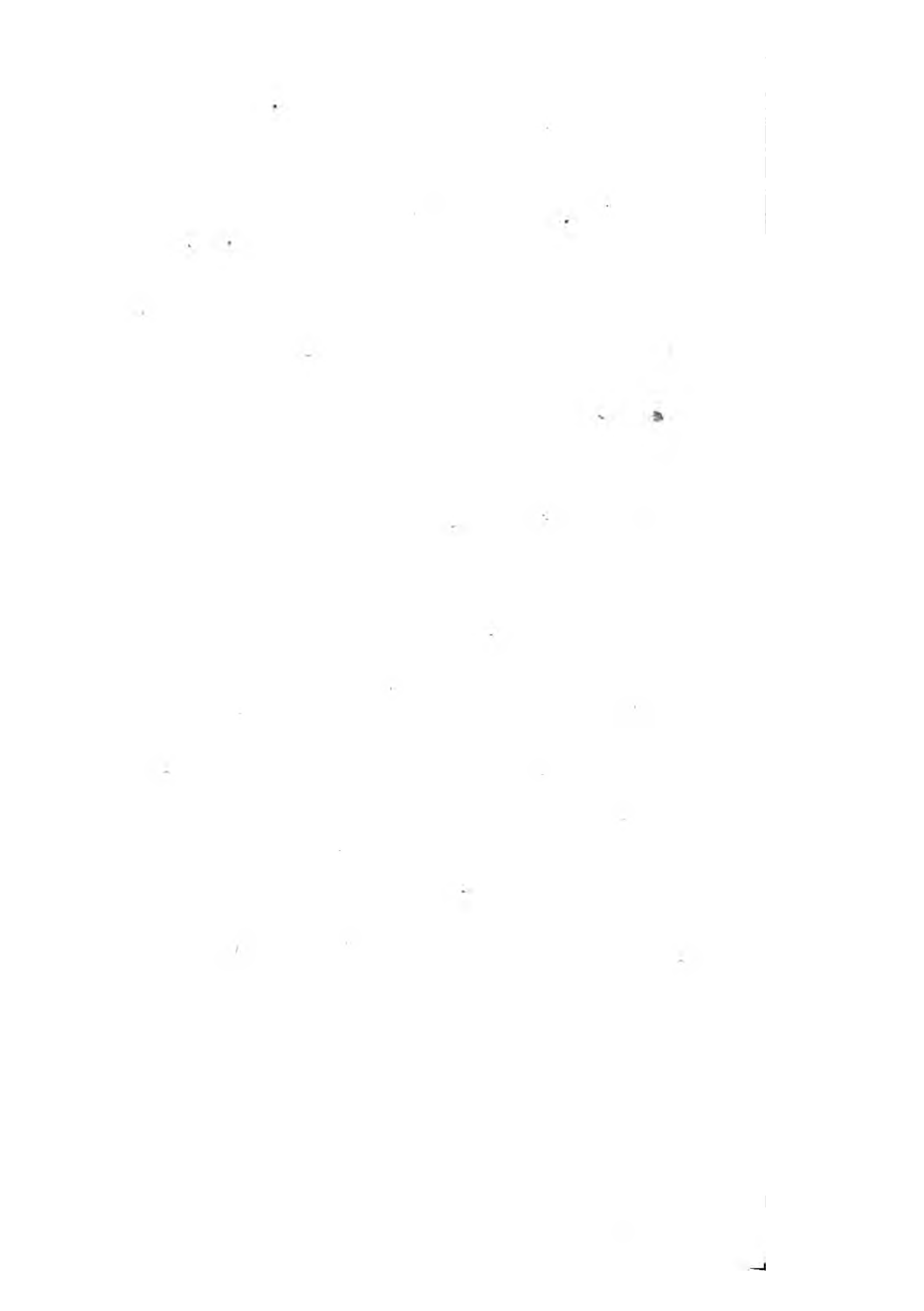
FINIS.

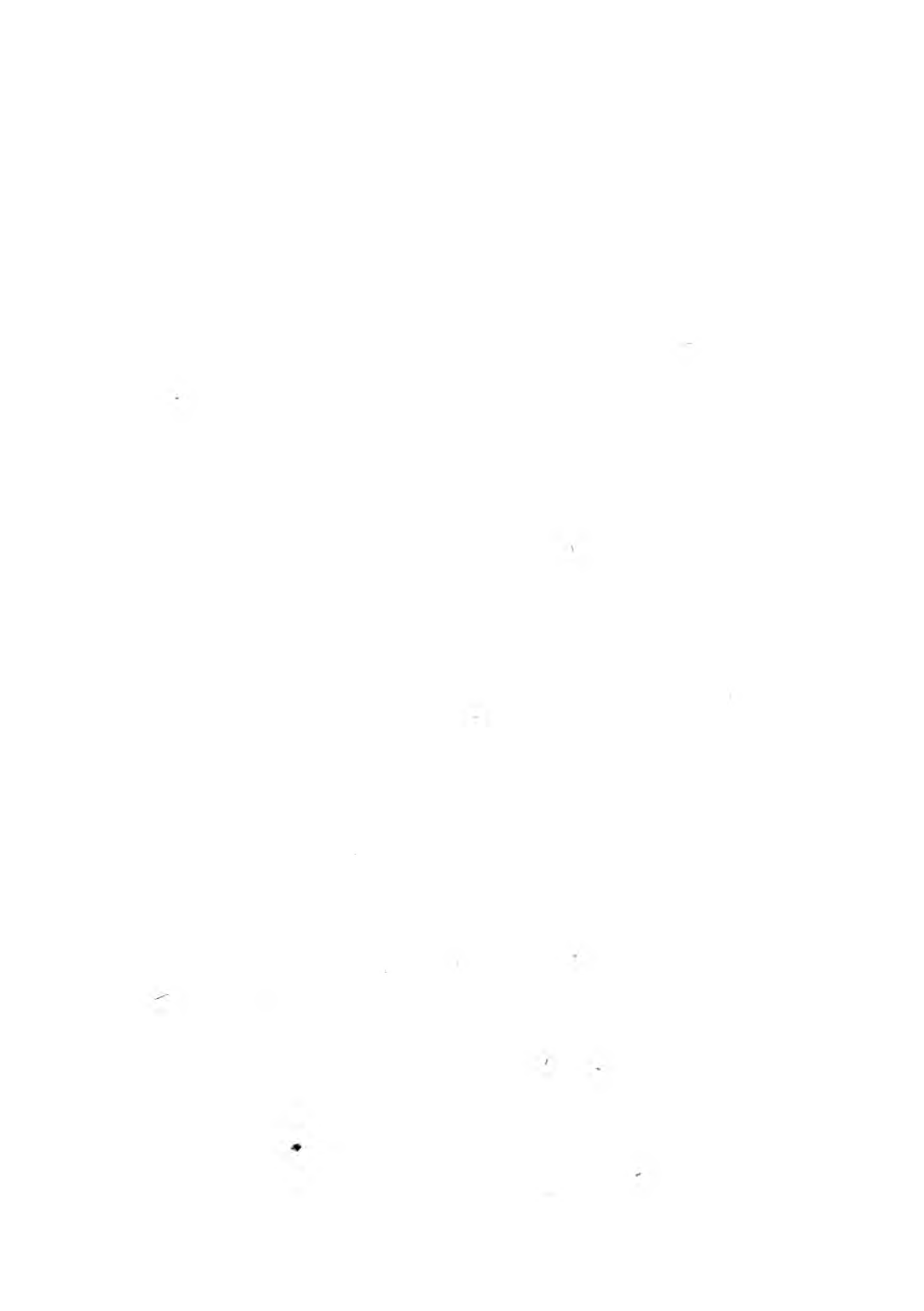


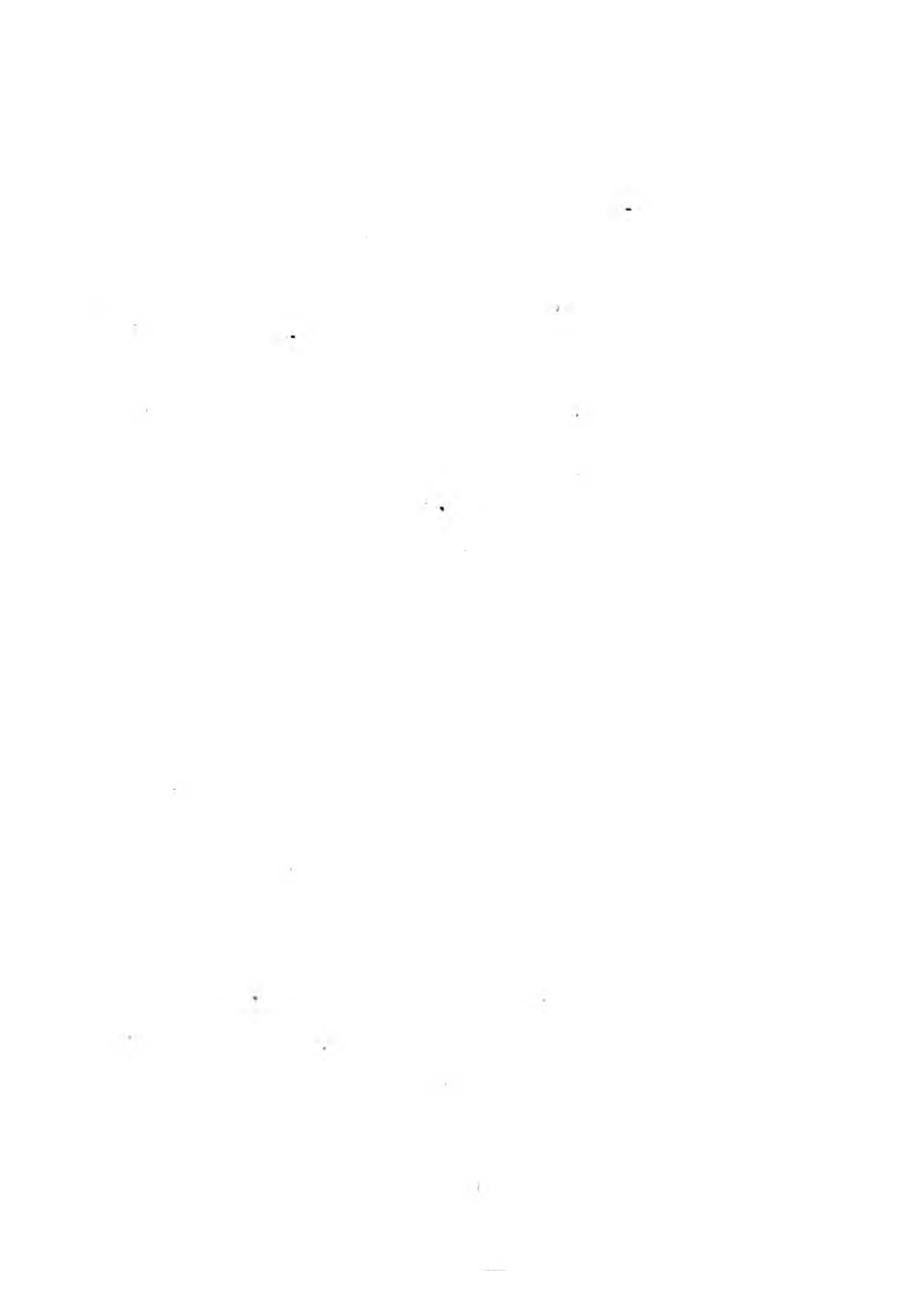












1870

