

tractions to secure more than a hasty passing glance. But her kindness disarmed rivalry, and although she was the magnet of attraction, wherever she appeared her smile was reflected in the happy countenances of all whom she honoured with her attention. Envy could not exist within its influence, for hers was a smile, in which all that is rich and beautiful in woman's nature was concentrated—it ever lighted that noble, placid brow, and ever appeared like a bright ray of sunshine, illuminating every object around, and demanding from all the heart's warm tribute of love and admiration—to all she was free and unreserved, and none could regard her without reading in the fascination of her expression, how intimately gaiety of heart and the consciousness and pride of beauty in her soul, were mingled with a deep native passionate tenderness.

Many were the young and noble youths who sought her favour and addressed her in soft accents of courtly adulation. She seemed attentive and listened to their just encomiums, with a graceful dignity—but it was easy to perceive that her heart was uninterested. I watched her eye as her gay admirers swarmed around her—but no involuntary burst of feeling—no peculiar look or cast of expression as she replied to their congratulations and kind wishes, showed that to one more than the rest, her heart dictated a warmer language.

“Is it possible” said I to my friend, who seemed absorbed in contemplating the same beautiful being “that of all these favourites of fortune, who are apparently so interested in seeking her favour, not one can secure her heart's young affections. “It is possible” she replied, and although her countenance indicated so much genuine sensibility and true feeling, there are some who affirm that she is not capable of experiencing a more ardent affection than common place-friendship—'tis true, her heart is unaffected by attractions which awaken in common souls admiration and love, but when I have enjoyed her intimate, unrestrained confidence, she has expressed in her own enthusiastic language, emotions, which convince me that she has a heart which can love with a fervency too deep and heavenly to be beset