

In vain antiquity exalts  
 Its oblivious mantle o'er—  
 For *thought* can penetrate the veil,  
 And o'er its summits soar.

Far from all scenes of earthly toil,  
 From heaven's ethereal height,  
 It proudly wings its way along  
 With unimpeded might;  
 Bearing the fervent prayer of *faith*—  
 The ecstasy of hope,  
 Up to the mediatorial throne,  
 To heaven's eternal court.

It follows th' comet's streaming blaze,  
 Concentric into space;  
 Runs with the pencill'd ray of light,  
 And victory crowns the race.  
 It soars above the eve-tinged cloud,  
 Surveys the "water's" bed;  
 Brings up to view the dear lost ones—  
 Who slumber with the dead!

It rides upon the silvery spray  
 Of ocean's billowy breast;  
 And on the cloud-capp'd heights of *earth*,  
 Majestically rests.

It follows the winding river's course,  
 Lives with the orbs of night—  
 And floats where *omnipresence* reigns  
 In worlds of unseen light.

It soars 'mid threat'ning tempest's blasts,  
 In the dizzy whirlwind's might;  
 It lightly rides on the zephyr's wing,  
 And sits on the shades of night!  
 Pensive it plays on the deep—sullude,  
 Where moonbeams dancing play;  
 It revels in the balm of morn  
 And in the poet's lay.

It glows where sparkling diamonds lie—  
 Where priceless rubies shine;  
 It lives in India's spicy groves,  
 In Peru's golden mine;  
 And like the elfin bird \* of flowers,  
 'Tis ever on the wing,  
 And ceaseless flits from clime to clime,  
 A deep—mysterious thing!

From the prison's darkest cell it glides,  
 Untrammell'd forth to scenes  
 Of other years—of happier days—  
 Fled to the land of dreams;  
 For though the body may be bound—  
 The will by chains controul'd—  
 Yet none can stay the flight of thought—  
 The wand'ring of the *soul*.

\* Humming bird.

Liverpool, N.S., 1842.

WILHELMINA.

Written for the Amaranth.

GEORGE NEVERS.

A TALE OF THE TIMES.

(Concluded.)

CHAPTER III.

A LOVELY morning was that which followed the ball. Millions of dew-drops glistened in the early sunbeam; every thing seemed teeming with life. Joy danced on the rustling leaf—it mingled with the flow of the tepid fountains—it gambolled on the green lawns and the rugged cliffs; it whispered in the chirp of the tiny insect, and rang out in the melody of the forest songster. How then could man neglect to profit by its instructions! 'Twere impossible; and they who were accustomed to lengthen out their slumbers into the late noonday at home, acknowledged there the influence of nature over corrupt habits; and before the first chaunt to the source of life, had died away, the transient population of the village were astir, and were soon occupied with the various amusements which the place afforded. Who, that looked on the scene, would have imagined that among the groups of happy faces there assembled, there could have been found one exception—one heart that did not respond to the shouts of glee that sprang up on every side of him? It is not in such places as this, that we are accustomed to seek for misery. In the haunts of vice, and in the abodes of poverty—in the wretched hovel, and in the gloomy dungeon, which the man of the world and the pleasure-hunter sensitively avoid; we listen for the low wail that speaks of human suffering,—but grief and pain are not the less known to the wealthy of the earth, because we do not seek their abodes to find them.—There may have been many there on that morning, who could have stopped short in the midst of their revelry and pointed to festering spots on their heart's core, for which their sport was but a flimsy covering; and it would not be a great tax upon reason, to conceive that of the hundreds that whiled away the morning hours in that fairy place, there was not one who could boast of thorough happiness. Who is there that has not, in his merriest hours, felt his spirits suddenly droop, without being able to assign any adequate cause for the change! There would seem to be a principle in the organization of the mind, acting like a check-string in a piece of mechanism, and designed to neutralize the effects of pleasure, when rising to an injurious height, and this may have been