

May he, when winds and waves around
 In fearful concert sing,
 Secure beneath the shadow sit,
 Of the Almighty's wing.

Then fare thee well, my gallant boy!
 We yield thee tho' with pain;
 And may the love by duty sway'd,
 Press thy warm lips again.

For many years of Mr. Desbrisay's life his mind was deeply shadowed by melancholy, rendering all attempts at connected literary pursuits impossible, and we must impute it to this cause that but few poems have been left as his memorials. He resided in Dartmouth until a short time previous to his death, which occurred at Boston, in 1847 at the age of 42. We regret that we have no more extensive result of his literary acquirements than the manuscript from which we have gleaned the preceding extracts; but we hope yet to see those perpetuated in some more appropriate form, such as a collection of Nova Scotian poems, enshrining the beautiful fragments of the poetic and intellectual wealth scattered profusely among us.

STRAY STORIES—No. 1.

MARGARET FRASER: OR, THE LONELY WIDOW.

PERHAPS there are but few persons of the present day who can rightly conceive of the difficulties and privations which attended the exertions of the first settlers of this Province; when there was little that had the appearance of a road, to accelerate the transportation of the necessaries of life, from one infant settlement to another; when as yet the branching pine, the stately spruce, the birch and maple, maintained the places nature had assigned them, time out of mind; when persons, who had been accustomed in those countries, which had for ages past been in a high state of culture and civilization, to comparative ease and comfort, were here compelled to convey on their shoulders what was absolutely necessary for their subsistence; and even in procuring those articles, with which this country naturally abounded, they had much to contend against, from the very limited acquaintance they possessed of the readiest means for obtaining them. They had all the awkwardness of the present emigrant, without that efficient assistance, which is now so promptly and kindly afforded, by those whom nature and long habitude have accustomed to the various occupations of a new country; and they are even in the present day much diversified.