

TO MY DEAREST FRIEND,  
CAROLINE GIFFARD PHILLIPSON.

---

TO THEE, the loveliest, best on earth,  
These simple lays, of little worth,  
I dedicate: oh! let them be  
A touchstone to thy memory,  
That when wide space shall us divide,  
In fancy I may by thy side  
Still wander. Time sad changes brings,  
As on, with never-resting wings,  
He flies; and who can say if we again  
Shall meet amidst earth's scenes of pain  
Or bliss; but, come what will, my heart  
With love for thee shall never part;  
But through all changes, chances, time,  
Thy lovely form, thy soul sublime,  
In purity and truth shall be  
As some bright distant star to me,  
Whose rays shall ever have the pow'r  
To cheer and bless when night-skies low'r;  
And when for me the sun doth shine,  
I'll guide its rays to thee and thine.