

so pale! Sore enough times we had at home, but then we kept all together,—and now they are gone—gone!” and she burst into a fresh flood of tears.

Allan soothed his wife with all the arguments which his kind heart could suggest, and her tears gradually dried and she tried to answer him with a smile, but her heart was sadly oppressed, poor thing, for her gentle but not very strong spirit had sunk under the distresses of that sad voyage.

An early marriage and the demands of a growing family, had kept Allan and his young wife poor; and how can the Irish peasantry hope to grow rich amidst the accumulated social evils which grind them to the earth? They rented a small cabin; and a patch of potato-ground and a cow were their chief dependence; yet Allan and his wife belonged to the decent poor who prized independence and looked forward to better days. But the potato-rot came, and took away from them the staff of life; labor was scarce and poorly remunerated, and the cow was sold to pay their rent and taxes. So they scraped together the little that was left, and it barely sufficed to pay for a passage to America after setting aside a few pounds for the outfit of a new home, or any exigencies that might arise. From this small sum some coins had already been abstracted to relieve the necessities of their suffering fellow-