

417 *Catharina*. 21 I retain 'bands', as Cowper wrote it in the copy preserved among the Ash MSS., and the copy from which Hayley printed appears to have had it also. 'Bands' must be understood not as equivalent to 'leaves', but as meaning an agreement or binding promise. See S. E. D. s. v. *Band* *de* 10.

418 *To Dr. Darwin*. This was sent to Hayley in a letter dated June 10, 1792, for his criticism; the first version differed from the poem as published in the following passages: 8 labours of; bringing forth. Between ll. 8 and 9 came this stanza:

The verse that kindles meets a fire,
A kindred fire in them,
The numbers live, that they admire,
And die, that they condemn.

9, 10 Live thou—well pleas'd alike, thy song
With that award we greet.

16 At whose so soon as thine! 21 Unworthy! Scarce worthy.

Hayley's copy of verses is criticized by Cowper in a letter of June 23, 1792 (*Letters*, ed. Wright, iv. p. 240), and the last verse as there printed is by Cowper:

Two social bards who roamed that way
Learned all, and all they learned
Were charged by Nature to convey
To whom it most concerned.

421 *Inscription for a Moss-House*. This first appeared in *Cowper Illustrated*, &c. (see p. xxiii), 1804; afterwards in Grimshawe's edition. There seems no reason to doubt its genuineness, though Grimshawe's unsupported authority would be of little value; he printed as Cowper's the *Sonnet to a Young Lady on her Birthday*, which Cowper expressly disowned.

427 *To Mary*. The MS. copy contains the following cancelled version of ll. 9-16:

Thy needles, once a shining store,
Discernible by thee no more,
Rust in disuse, their service o'er,
My Mary!
But thy ingenious work remains,
Nor small the profit it obtains
Since thou esteemst my pleasure gains
My Mary!

428 *Lines*. I have placed these lines here, among the few and mournful poems of Cowper's last years, rather than in the Appendix, because their biographical interest is thus more clearly displayed.

433 *Olney Hymns*. The text is that of the first edition, with the exceptions noted; a few obvious errors of punctuation and quotation-marks have been silently corrected. To complete the list of words misprinted in the first