

CHAPTER XI.

" I built a bridge of fancies,
It reached from earth to heaven,
Yet scarcely ere completed,
Its slender chain was riven ;
So many shadows crossed it,
In colors decked so bright,
No wonder that they broke it,
Although their weight was light."

VERY glad indeed were the inmates of that little cottage when, the lawful time having elapsed, and the necessary measures being complied with, the badge of imprisonment was removed and they were at liberty again to enjoy in out-door freedom the return of summer hours.

Erica welcomed with warmth her long-denied friends, and none more gladly than her faithful Jack. How anxiously that great stalwart fellow had waited for the summons. And when, moved by the sight of that little frail