

happy added she, that I could not bear to see any body looking so sick and sad as you do, and I told Sook' about the gentleman, and she said she could cure him.

This was the beginning of my acquaintance with Amie, for so she was called. I was at length persuaded to try the remedy, it certainly did me no harm, and it produced a pungent sensation upon the skin that almost amounted to a blister, and possibly might have done good. I think from some cause or other, I grew a little better. Amie used to come every day, and often brought me some little delicacy, I had gone the round of suspicion ; at first, I conceived it was for money she had made my acquaintance ; then I thought possibly, young as she was, and old as I was, for there were certainly thirty years difference in our ages, it might be for love ; but after three years experience, I became convinced she had no motive under heaven, but the desire of serving a fellow-creature. All this time, I knew no more about Amie's mother, than the man in the moon ; I had no curiosity about her, and I don't recollect that she ever mentioned her more than once or twice. One day Amie came to me with a sorrowful look, I shall not see you much longer, said she. I am going away. Where ? asked I. ' To Alabama,' she replied, ' What in the name of heaven carries you to Alabama ?' exclaimed I. Are you going to be married ? ' No, said she, but my mother is, and she is going to Alabama with her new husband.' ' And takes you ? Yes, Sir. Poor child ! I involuntarily exclaimed ; do you want to go ? She hung her head, and I saw a few tears hastily brushed away. ' It is a wild uncultivated country,' said I. Yes Sir, that is the reason my father is going ; he has worn out his land here, and he can purchase a hundred acres for fifty dollars. ' But it is good for nothing ?' ' Indeed sir you are mistaken, it is the best of land ; he will have nothing to do but cut down the trees, build a log house, and plant corn or cotton, just as he pleases, and it will grow of itself.—' ' Well, well, said I peevishly,' perhaps your mother might think better of it. ' O no Sir, she is to be married to night, and next week we set off.' I certainly felt vexed at the folly of the mother, but I determined not to interfere ; if Amie chose to go, it