

truth, and not allow his friend to bear the blame of his fault. However, the week passed away without bringing any tidings from either brother or sister; and the finances at home being at a very low ebb, Robert started for the nearest sea-port town, and having got a birth in a vessel bound for Australia, he determined to work his way out, and endeavour to find any occupation there which would enable him to support himself. It was hard to be obliged to leave home while his mother was in so precarious a state of health, but each day that he remained only served to lessen her small stock of comforts; so, mentioning the matter to his sister Lucy alone, he started, after telling her to break the sad news as gently as possible to his poor mother.

(TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.)

WHAT I SAW.

I saw a little girl

With half-uncovered form,
And wondered why she wandered thus,
Amid the winter storm;

They said her mother drank
What took her sense away,
And so she let her children go
Hungry and cold all day.

I saw them lead a man
To prison for his crime,
Where solitude, and punishment,
And toil divide the time.

And as they forced him through its gate
Unwillingly along,
They told me 'twas the maddening drink
That made him do the wrong.

I saw a woman weep
As if her heart would break;
They said her husband drank too much
Of what he should not take.