

Have passed to darkness with the vanished age 805
 Who late so free as Spanish girls were seen
 (Ere War uprose in his volcanic rage),
 With braided tresses bounding o'er the green,
 While on the gay dance shone Night's lover-loving Queen ?

LXXXII.

Oh ! many a time and oft, h. l Harold loved, 810
 Or dreamed he loved, since rapture is a dream ;
 But now his wayward bosom was unmoved,
 For not yet had he drunk of Lethe's stream ;
 And lately had he learned with truth to deem 815
 Love has no gift so grateful as his wings :
 How fair, how young, how soft soe'er he seem,
 Full from the fount of Joy's delicious springs
 Some bitter o'er the bowers in bubbling venom flings.

LXXXIII.

Yet to the beauteous form he was not blind,
 Though now it moved him as it moves the wise : 820
 Not that Philosophy on such a mind
 E'er deigned to bend her chastely-awful eyes :
 But Passion raves itself to rest, or flies ;
 And Vice, that digs her own voluptuous tomb,
 Had buried long his hopes, no more to rise : 825
 Pleasure's palled victim ! life's abhorring gloom
 Wrote on his faded brow curst Cain's unresting doom.

LXXXIV.

Still he beheld, nor mingled with the throng ;
 But viewed them not with misanthropic hate ;
 Fain would he now have joined the dance, the song : 830
 But who may smile that sinks beneath his fate ?
 Naught that he saw his sadness could abate :
 Yet once he struggled 'gainst the demon's sway,
 And as in Beauty's bower he pensive sate,
 Poured forth this unpremeditated lay, 835
 To charms as fair as those that soothed his happier day.

809. NIGHT'S LOVER-LOVING QUEEN. Venus, or Hesperus, the evening star.
 813. LETHE. Gr., forgetfulness; the river in Hades whose waters when
 drank caused forgetfulness of former existence.
 817, 818. These two lines are a paraphrased translation of a passage from
 Lucretius.
 822. CHASTEY-AWFUL: that is, the chaste, awe-inspiring eyes.
 827. CAIN'S UNRESTING DOOM. See Genesis, iv. 11-15.
 835. UNPREMEDITATED LAY, from the introduction to Scott's *Lay*.