

THE BALLAD OF

CANTO VIII.

How the girl's stress of mind as well as her inability to rejoin Tsoqalem leads to her madness, and earns for her at the last a traditional indulgence ; of her conduct, apparently inspired ; and of the signs which Qaiyakwetsten mistakes for those of wisdom.

NAY, but a tithe may I set down
Of this, howe'er I fail
To sink the memory and drown
The thought within the tale

Of how Tsoqalem loud in laud
Of gracious things, pardie!
'Twixt day and dawning, fanged and clawed
In hairy armory,
Inhabited the Beast which gnawed
Its meat in infamy;