

shore, and rests on the bank of the river ; as the stripling's charms become mature, a messenger called June whispers in his ear, he leaves the stage suddenly, and another performer fills the scene. Beautiful as all the graces this nymph appears ; her haunts are the cool streams, the groves of myrtle, and the green wood solitudes ; she lies on beds of roses, and the sweet berries woo her hand from every shrub around. She inspires as true beauty ever does ; in her presence, the chill mountain peak becomes a delicious wind-tower, and the briny marsh a rich and fragrant meadow. But amid her young fruit, and her labyrinth of flowers, she quickly declines ; and lo ! while the sun revels with the celestial Archer Summer has disappeared. Autumn, a rich, beautiful, and benevolent matron, is on the stage ; the sickles flash among the corn fields, songs come from the vineyard ; and at the bidding of the season, man rejoicing amid his goods, gathers the riches of earth into his strong garners. Autumn loiters amid the richest hues and perfumes and sounds of the year, until all begin to decline ; then, glorious in her labours, full of days, and leaving a noble legacy behind, she too vanishes : Winter again comes forward, and wrapping itself in its cloak of fogs and frosts and snows, it lies half torpid, brooding over the creation of another Spring.

All hail ! first and fairest of seasons. As a strong man waking from a trance, who first scarcely breathes almost unconscious of existence, then looks up faintly at the light, essays to move his arms, and at length gathering strength to raise himself, spreads his arms widely, bows the knee, and with a timid glance pours out grateful acknowledgments to heaven for the renewed vigour and the returning health ; so is the earth under the influence of re-vivifying Spring.

The streams unloosed from the spells of winter, run joyfully along their channels, as the vital fluid through the veins of a convalescent ; the blowing wild flowers, the sprouting seeds, and the budding forest trees, show symptoms of innate energy : and soon, the revived planet looks up gratefully confident to heaven, a seeming paradise of beauty, not unworthy the sweet guardianship of the moon, and the company of the starry host. It has been