

many hours in bitter self-upbraidings at her own weakness.

"O sweet illusions of the brain!
O sudden thrills of fire and frost!
The world is bright while ye remain,
And dark and dead when ye are lost."

It was a cause for anxiety to Erica's friends that the little maid did not gain strength more rapidly, and it was suggested by Dr. Allen that a change would be beneficial. Many suggestions were offered, but Aunt Marian, who for years had held in view an ocean voyage, being anxious to test its efficacy in her own case, was delighted that now a party could be formed, and together they could spend the summer rambling amid new scenes and foreign lands. Many discussions were held, many plans adopted and rejected, and Marjorie felt regretful that such a proposal had been advanced. It seemed that it was concluded that she should be one of the party, and, considering her long absence from her duties, and the increased expenditure during Erica's sickness, she saw how impossible it would be for her to join them in the proposed pleasure-trip. She was silently