

Unfelt, perhaps, for she might, even as the hot tears start,
Well doubt, if with the flowers, the giver gave his heart;
Lovely they were! none fairer e'er waved to sunny air,
Than that sweet group of exiles, so radiant and so rare.

But unto her—the watcher—swift-footed Memory brings
How many a hoarded offering of far more precious things:
Words, with the hearts hue on them; looks, the heart only knows;
Thoughts, tender as the myrtle and lovely as the rose.

All this hath filled her heart with incredulous surprise,
Yet Jealousy still watcheth from out her aching eyes.—
'Till the dark night hath fallen, silently she stands,
Then her face is hidden in her lifted hands.

What the shadows cover, should I sing or say?—
Not a heart that loveth, would fail to echo—yea.

MAUDE.

PAGES FOR PASTIME.

It is a leading feature with one of the popular periodicals, published twice a month in London, to devote a page to objects of pastime. The "Family Friend" not only contributes in this manner to exercise and amuse the minds of its readers, but proffers considerable sums for the best solutions of its various puzzles. A friend to "The Provincial" suggests that the appropriation of a page for a like purpose will not be considered as giving too much importance to matter of a light and trivial character, but thinks most readers will concur in the sentiments of an intelligent English journalist, as conveyed by the following extract:

"When none but really good enigmas and conundrums are proposed or accepted we are inclined to think them by no means unworthy instruments in the education of the people. They are to the million what the severer studies of mathematics and logic are to the laborious student. To trace hidden resemblances, to explore secret qualities, to detect as with the glance of an Eagle, points of contact and of divergence, to familiarize the mind with the attributes, history and topography of natural objects, to concentrate the thinking faculty, to distinguish between real coincidences and mere verbal or literal similitudes—to do all this and much more is necessary to every Œdipus who would properly solve the mysteries of the Sphinx: and he who is master of such an art has the intellectual powers of which he needs not be ashamed. * * The indefatigable conductors of the Family Friend intend to offer before long (January 1852) prizes respectively of one hundred guineas, fifty guineas, and twenty-five guineas, for the best three solutions of enigmas! This is quite an unprecedented step, and will go far towards elevating the study of enigmas to the rank of a "science." A hundred guineas is usually esteemed a good sum for a prize essay—for a solution to an enigma it is magnificent."

The patrons to a Provincial Magazine, from its limited resources, would not of course expect or desire any cash reward for their proficiency in the art and mystery of riddles and their concomitants, but they will be entitled to all due credit for the ability they may feel disposed to exert in this direction, through the pages of this periodical—and in the mean time the exercise of their ingenuity is solicited on the following specimens:—