

Who, in the midnight hour, in love appeared
To Israel, and reassured him of
His tender care and purpose to recall
His children to their own inheritance,
When all concerning them had been fulfilled.
At daybreak, once again they journeyed on,
All confident of Heaven's watchful care.
And day on day their courage was renewed,
To hie upon their course o'er desert waste
Till Egypt was attained with thankfulness.

CANTO THE NINTH.

I.

Now Joseph, had their advent waited long,
And hastened in his chariot to greet
Them with a princely heart, within the land
Of Goshen and appoint them all their home.
Sublime and touching was the meeting scene
Of aged Patriarch and son renowned,
Assundered for the space of twenty years.
He saw his sainted father stooped with age,
And read the sorrow in his patient face,
Then flung himself upon his neck in tears.
While thus in fond embrace they lingered long,
Sorrow and joy long pent within their hearts
Unbidden rushed to grant them sweet relief
In loudest sobs of love unspeakable.
“Now that I do thy countenance behold,”