

Then with scorn and loud derision,
Bade me woo some other maiden.
Now I've seen thy spirit humbled.
All the years of pain and longing
Now are gone, and all forgiven,
And I come again thy suitor ;
Laura, Laura, wilt thou wed me ? ”
Maddened that he saw her terror,
Sprang she from his side and answered,
“ Once I scorned thee, still I scorn thee,
And to-night I more despise thee.
When asked I for thy forgiveness ?
Prate to one who loves to listen !
I would go, for I am weary :
Save thy love for gentle maidens—
To revenge my soul is wedded.”
Then he whispered still more hoarsely,
“ Well I know fair Norma's hatred
And the cause you gave her for it.
If she killed you who would marvel ?
If they found you in the river
Stiff and stark to-morrow morning,
Who would say she had not killed you ?
Woman, say that thou wilt wed me,
Or I swear by all things living
You shall die as I have told you.”
Strove she once again to 'scape him,
But he quickly stood before her :
Through and through the heart he smote her ;
Shrieked she one wild shriek of anguish,
Fell a lifeless corpse before him.
Then he raised the prostrate body,
Bore it to the river margin,
Where with all his strength he hurled it