

foreign bed, and after a long and lingering illness, fall into the grave among strangers!

A thousand times she looked out the way she saw him depart, mourned him dead till time had dried away her tears.

After a lapse of seven long years and more after the departure of Mr. Lossley, Mr. Starks offered his hand in marriage to Mrs. Lossley; and—as it was firmly believed by herself and friends that he was dead—Mr. Starks being a gentleman worthy of her, she accepted the offer and they were married.

At this time Mr. Lossley was living with his second wife in the State of Missouri, where he continued to live for something like eighteen years. About fourteen years after his marriage his second wife died—and he was left with two children, a son and a daughter. The daughter was the eldest, and took charge of her father's house; but in little more than three years after the death of her mother she married and moved to North Alabama, and her father and little brother went with her.

In the meantime Mrs. Starks had lost her husband and father, and having but one child, and that a little daughter, she removed to Alabama also, to live with an aged uncle, who was living in that part of the country; so that Mr. Lossley and Mrs. Starks became neighbors—and they became acquainted with each other as Colonel Lossley (this title he had obtained when among the fur traders) and Mrs. Starks. They soon formed an attachment for each other, and Colonel Lossley eventually offered her his hand in marriage, which she accepted! It is to be observed that during the whole of their intercourse they both took great care never to mention any circumstance connecting itself with their first marriage, and both passed for having been so very cautious on this subject, that the slightest trace of their former acquaintance was not discovered until the night before the marriage was to have been solemnized. Perhaps the sacred fount of their former sorrows was sealed too deep to be readily broken up again by either of them

The night before marriage, as they were conversing alone, the Colonel remarked that he expected to be a little frightened on the next evening—saying, with him the older the worse—for, said he, 'when I married the first time, I was not so much embarrassed as when I was married last!'—to which Mrs. Starks replied by saying, 'You have been married twice it seems?' The Colonel tried at first to change the subject of the conversation, but soon found that would not do—and knowing it would have to come out sooner or later, he went into a detail of all the circumstances connected with his first marriage, giving names and dates! This was a subject on which the Colonel was eloquent. He remarked that his long lost Mary was never out of his mind for one hour at a time; owing to that fact, he often spoke of her to those who never heard of her and could not enter into the conversation with him. He went on to state that she was his Rachel—his first choice—the companion of his youth; having taken hold of his feelings at such an early age, the impression was indelible, and a recollection of her name could never be erased from his mind; 'and though,' said he, 'I have passed through the town, and the country, the dreary wilderness; through winter, through summer; amid friends and foes; through health and afflictions, through smiles and frowns—yet I have ever borne painted upon my imagination the image of my lamented Mary. Here the mists began to gather in the eyes of the colonel, and for a few moments a death like silence prevailed. At length, looking upon his intended bride, he saw that she had taken more than usual interest in the relation he had been making. He then broke the silence by saying, 'you must forgive me for the kind remembrance I bear for the beloved companion of my youth. While he was uttering this sentence, Mrs. Starks swoned away, and would have fallen from her seat had not the Colonel supported her. While she lay in this death like state, many were the reflections which passed through the mind of Colonel Lossley. First supposing