

For sorrow after all, is one of God's good angels, sent in love, not in wrath, to wean the heart from a world which, in spite of its vicissitudes, presents so much to allure and tempt the soul, from those higher paths in which its safety and welfare are intimately connected.

Sydney and Edward Mortimer had been school-boys and College mates together, and a friendship, that bid fair to outlive the usual period of youthful friendships, existed between them.

Passionately fond of literature, Sydney had hoped to devote his life to its pursuit; but his father's death, and the changed circumstances of the family, rendered this an impossibility; and thankful to secure a clerkship in a counting-house, he henceforth devoted his energies to forwarding the interests of his employers, and found in their ever increasing esteem, and the grateful love of his kindred, for whose sake he had made the sacrifice, abundant recompence.

CHAPTER III.

"Oh that pleasant garden plot;
A shrubbery was beside it,—
And an old and mossy apple tree,
With a woodbine wreathed to hide it "

"The Father of all, glances down
On his children who strive in the race;
On all who run well He bestows
His looks of ineffable grace;
Go on then in faith, all that run well must win,
To leave the good paths, or to faint, were a sin!"

The hour of noon had returned, and Alice Wel-