



"Of course, you'll all be out to the Union Dance to-night."

After Reading "Pendennis"

I closed the book, I heaved a sigh,
I tossed the long-cold pipe aside,
And wondered much, so soon to spy
The shadows herald even-tide:
My eyes I rubbed and opened wide
And yet of waking was not sure,
A vision still my sense belied,
So steadfast, womanly and pure.

2.

In memory many phantoms lie
Of heroines I've deified:
There's Roman Lygia, doomed to die,
And little Twist's protectress tried,
And Warrington's enticing bride,
Miss Aubrey, Lucy and demure
Diana Vernon: of each I've cried,
"So steadfast, womanly and pure!"

3.

And that to all these words apply
In certain sense is not denied,
But they were transient, and I
Forgot them, till I Laura spied—
I think her image will abide
Since, older, I have fancies fewer,
And doubt her place could be supplied,
So steadfast, womanly and pure.

L'Envoi.

I prithee, Laura, to reside
A Fountain in a Desert dure,
And e'en to me, perhaps, a guide,
So steadfast, womanly and pure.

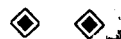
—L. Owen.

A MINUTE MR. STUDENT

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