

[For the Maple Leaf.

FUNERAL DIRGE.

(Sung by a Son over the Grave of his Mother.)

Oh ! mother, did I not forbid thee to depart ?—
 Did I not plead, and tell thee, that thou would'st soon
 Feel on thy faded face the balmy breath of June ;
 And that the summer's music soon would fill thy ear
 With those sweet melodies, thou loved'st much to hear ;
 'That soon our bird would build again its little nest
 Within the Lilac, where for years it buildeth 'erst' ?—
 Did I not bid thee wait, and tell thee even then
 Our burn had burst its bands, and babbled through the glen ;
 That winter's clouds were fled ? that spring was coming fast,
 And round thy wither'd form a robe of health would cast ?
 Then would we roam together, I would aid thy walk,
 Whilst thou would'st gladden me with a fond mother's talk—
 Would'st mark the violet's purple leaves meekly outspread.
 But oh ! they're blooming now upon thy earthly bed,
 For thou, alas ! art not, and I am here alone,
 A saddened, weeping boy. Too well I know thou'rt gone,
 For there is none to soothe the throbbings of my heart.

PENSOLVA.

April 17, 1854.



[For the Maple Leaf.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

Morning broke, light golden clouds heralded the approach of the orb of day, glorious in his wakening. He came, bringing in his train his two ever present hand-maids—joy and sorrow. Among those who awaited with eager expectation his gladdening beams, were two hearts beating high with hope and love. That sun was about to shine for the first time to *them*, on the land of their adoption ; and, with the eager expectation of children, they gazed on the shore about to be irradiated with his rising beams.

The steamer, on the deck of which they stood, ploughed gallantly the noble waters of Lake Ontario. Ontario ! Name so expressive of thy loveliness. Involuntarily they uttered the literal meaning of that poetical word,—“How beautiful,”—as the sun gradually emerged from the horizon, shedding a golden light over the land of promise. There they stood,—he the type of strong and vigorous manhood, his manly heart springing to grapple with, and surmount the first hard experience he felt