Mary Darwall, â??To a Friend, on her recovery from Sicknessâ?•

Description

[MARY DARWALL]

â??To a Friend, on her recovery from Sicknessâ?•

My much belovâ??d, my gentle friend,
May evâ??ry happiness attend
Thy healthâ??s returning bloom;
May fell disease, and grief, and pain,
With all their dire afflictive train,
No longer be thy doom.

Thâ?? autumnal sun now shines serene,
Rich Ceres beautifies each scene,
And plenty laughs around;
The woods, the hills, the vales look gay,
O! hither come, and every day
With rapture shall be crownâ??d.

Come, range with me the verdant lawn,
And hear the lark at early dawn
His sprightly matin trill;
Or, with my little playful throng,
At eve enjoy the blackbirdâ??s song,
Beside some gurgling rill.

But wheresoeâ??er my friend shall stray,
May peace and pleasure smooth her way,
And health and fortune smile;
May love, with all his choicest flowrâ??s,
For thee adorn his myrtle bowrâ??s,
And all thy cares beguile.

May some gay youth, fond, kind, and true,
My SYLVIAâ??s worthy heart subdue
To Hymenâ??s gentle powâ??r;
Soft may the silken fetters prove,
Distrust or doubt neâ??er chill your love,
But peace gild every hour!

NOTES:

8 *Ceres* â??The Roman goddess of the growth of foodâ?• (*Britannica*).

10 *vales* â??A more or less extensive tract o f land lying between two ranges of hillsâ?• (*OED*).

14 *lark* â??A name used generally for any bird of the Alaudidae familyâ?• (*OED*).

15 *matin* â??The morning song of birdsâ?• (*OED*); *trill* â??To utter or sing (a note, tune, etc.) with tremulous vibration of soundâ?• (*OED*).

18 *rill* â??Small stream; a brook; a rivuletâ?• (*OED*).

23 *myrtle bowrâ??s* â??Any various evergreen shrubs or small trees of the genus *Myrtus*â?• (*OED*).

27 *Hymen* â??In Greek mythology, the god of marriageâ?• (*Britannica*).

28 *fetters* â??Chains for the legsâ?• (Johnson).

30 *gild* â??To cover entirely or partially with a thin layer of goldâ?• (*OED*).

Source: *Poems on Several Occasions* (London, 1794), pp. 26Â-28. [Google Books]

Edited by Sandy Karkar