MORNING PIECE,

OR,

An HYMN for the HAY-MAKERS.

O D E I.

Quinetiam Gallum noctem explaudentibus alfs Auroram clarâ confuetum voce vocare.

LUCRET.

Brisk chaunticleer his mattins had begun,
And broke the filence of the night,
And thrice he call'd aloud the tardy fun,
And thrice he hail'd the dawn's ambiguous light;
Back to their graves the fear-begotten phantoms run.

Strong Labour got up with his pipe in his mouth,
And stoutly strode over the dale,
He lent new perfumes to breath of the south,
On his back hung his wallet and flail.
Behind him came Health from her cottage of thatch,
Where never physician had lifted the latch.

First

First of the village Colin was awake, And thus he sung, reclining on his rake.

Now the rural graces three
Dance beneath you maple tree;
First the vestal Virtue, known
By her adamantine zone;
Next to her in rosy pride,
Sweet Society, the bride;
Last Honesty, full seemly drest
In her cleanly home-spun vest.

The abby bells in wak'ning rounds
The warning peal have giv'n;

And pious Gratitude resounds

Her morning hymn to heav'n.

All nature wakes---the birds unlock their throats, And mock the shepherd's rustic notes.

• All alive o'er the lawn,

Full glad of the dawn,

The little lambkins play,

Sylvia and Sol arise,---and all is day---

Come, my mates, let us work,
And all hands to the fork,
While the Sun shines, our Hay-cocks to make,
So fine is the Day,
And so fragrant the Hay,
That the Meadow's as blithe as the Wake.

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Our voices let's raise
In Phœbus's praise,
Inspir'd by so glorious a theme,
Our musical words
Shall be join'd by the birds,
And we'll dance to the tune of the stream.

A

NOON-PIECE;

OR,

The MOWERS at Dinner.

O D E II.

Jam pastor umbras cum grege languido, Rivumque fessus quærit, & horridi Dumeta Silvani, caretque Ripa vagis taciturna ventis.

Hor.

And vehement he sheds his liquid Rays of Gold;
No cloud appears thro' all the wide expanse;
And short, but yet distinct and clear,
To the wanton whistling air
The mimic shadows dance.

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