Till ſailing farther on the deep,
Or mounting Virtue's lofty ſteep,
The pretty ſyſtem ſinks away,
The little loves, and ſmiles decay.
Unnumber'd waves and ſtorms we find
To raiſe — not to depreſs the mind,
The conſcious mind, which dares endure,
And, fixt on Virtue, ſtands ſecure:
Nor ſhrinks, diſmay'd, when danger's nigh,
Nor drops her aims beneath the ſky.

The STORY of JACOB and RACHEL attempted.

To the ſame.

THOU! to whom nature variouſly imparts,
The gift of conq'ring, and of keeping hearts,
Smile on the lay — nor deem the Tale too long,
Which, but for Thee, had yet remain'd unſung.
So may ſome choſen Youth hereafter view
All *Rachel*'s Graces bloom in Thee anew,
And love, like *Jacob*, tenderly and true.

Far

LLANIES.
the deep,
lofty ſteep,
nks away,
ſmiles decay.
nd ſtorms we find
preſs the mind,
which dares endure,
ſtands ſecure:
d, when danger's nigh,
beneath the ſky.

TORY of
ACHEL attempted.
the ſame.

om nature variouſly imparts,
q'ring, and of keeping hearts,
or deem the Tale too long,
, had yet remain'd unſung.
Youth hereafter view
bloom in Thee anew,
, tenderly and true.

Far

Far in the Eaſt, as Sacred Writ records,
Dwelt *Laban*, rich in ſundry flocks and herds;
Near *Haran's* famous Well was his abode,
There ſmoak'd his altars to his Houſhold-God.
His dwellings large, and fertile was his land,
And num'rous ſervants waited his command;
The fruitful lawn, the hill, the levell'd down,
Far as the eye could ſtretch, were all his own:
Throughout the Eaſt extended *Laban*'s fame,
And where he journey'd, there he left a name.

Two only Daughters to his age remain'd,
And *Leah* one, and one was *Rachel* nam'd.
Time had from *Leah* rifled ev'ry grace —
But blooming beauty dwelt on *Rachel*'s face.
Well-favour'd, graceful, in the bloom of life,
She led the flocks, or tript it to the fife;
When ſummer ſuns burnt fiercely o'er their heads,
She drove the wantons friſking to the ſhades;
Or when the merry pipe rejoic'd the vale,
Led up the dance, or told the jocund tale;

Chearful and blythe ſhe paſs'd the day along,
And ev'ry valley echo'd with her ſong.
She was each ſhepherd's theme, each ſwain's delight,
Their talk by day, their viſion in the night;
Whene'er they feaſted on their homely cheer,
No mirth was heard, if *Rachel* was not there:
'Mongſt all their rural ſports She ſtill was ſeen,
And foremoſt at the feaſt, as on the green.

Her Fame and Charms ſoon reach'd young
Jacob's ear,
Rebekah's beſt belov'd, and *Iſaac*'s Heir:
But ere his friends and family he leaves,
His Father's Bleſſing on his head he craves.
To *Padan-aram* now his courſe he ſteers,
His hopes ſucceeded by a thouſand fears;
The mingled paſſions take up all his ſoul,
And vaſt events within his boſom roll.

As on he journey'd far into the Eaſt,
Fatigued himſelf, his camels wanting reſt,

Not

A N I E S.

s'd the day along,
h her ſong.
ne, each ſwain's delight,
ion in the night;
eir homely cheer,
hel was not there:
s She ſtill was ſeen,
as on the green.

s ſoon reach'd young

d *Iſaac*'s Heir:
amily he leaves,
s head he craves.
ourſe he ſteers,
thouſand fears;
up all his ſoul,
boſom roll.

into the Eaſt,
els wanting reſt,

Not

Not far away, with pleaſure he beheld
A ſpacious well, amidſt a fruitful field;
Where with their flocks the ſun-burnt ſhepherds came,
Panting and faint, to quaff the limpid ſtream.
Of theſe he aſk'd their country and their name:
"From *Haran* (they reply'd) thy ſervants came."
And know ye *Laban?* lives he, can ye tell?
"He lives, my Lord; thy ſervants know him well:
"His num'rous flocks in yonder valley ſtray,
"And with them, lo! his daughter comes this way."

When *Jacob* ſaw the Maid, his beating breaſt
The pow'r of Love and radiant eyes confeſt.
Quick thro' his veins the gen'rous pleaſure flow'd,
His boſom with unuſual fervours glow'd;
Around his heart the ſoft'ning paſſions crept,
He gaz'd, he ſigh'd, he wonder'd, and he wept;
Then ſeiz'd her hand, and kiſs'd her roſy cheek,
And trembling from his lips the accents break.

When

When *Rachel* heard his family and name,
Their common ſtock, the tribe from whence ſhe came;
With decent haſte, exulting o'er the plain,
She, with the tidings, to her Father ran.
Meanwhile her harmleſs flock neglected ſtray,
Or round the Well in expectation lay:
Theſe *Jacob* water'd, could he well do leſs?
He lov'd the ſheep, but more the Shepherdeſs.

When *Laban* heard the tidings, forth he went
To meet, and welcome *Jacob* to his tent.
" My joy (cry'd *Laban*) let my actions ſpeak;
" A kind embrace, and friendly welcome take,
" —This for *Rebekah* — this for *Iſaac*'s ſake."

Now mirth and feaſting thro' the houſe were found,
The damſels tript it to the tabret's ſound,
And the briſk bowl to *Jacob*'s health went round.
Each in the gen'ral joy aſſerts his ſhare,
And none ſeem'd penſive, but the Patriarch's Heir.

He

A N I E S.

nily and name,
ibe from whence ſhe

o'er the plain,
r Father ran.
k neglected ſtray,
ctation lay:
ne well do leſs?
e the Shepherdeſs.

dings, forth he went
ob to his tent.
my actions ſpeak;
ndly welcome take,
s for *Iſaac*'s ſake."

the houſe were found,
abret's ſound,
's health went round.
rts his ſhare,
ut the Patriarch's Heir.

He

He oft on *Rachel* gazes, oft approves,
And much he muſes, for as much he loves:
All night her pleaſing image ſooth'd his mind;
He found her fair, and hop'd to prove her kind.

Soon as the roſy morn unveil'd the light,
And with her ſplendor chas'd the gloom of night;
Jacob aroſe, and bleſt the new-born day,
Then ſought the flock, where *Rachel* led the way.
And now he guides 'em to the flow'ry hill,
Or drives 'em ſkipping to the diſtant rill:
At noon ſecures 'em from the ſcorching heat;
With *Rachel* near him, *Jacob*'s toil is ſweet.
If on the reed his ſkilful fingers move,
He pours the ſong to harmony and Love.
Oft on the trees imprints her much-lov'd name,
Or ſighs his paſſion to the murm'ring ſtream;
To deck her hair the flow'ry wreath prepares,
The flow'ry wreath for *Jacob*'s ſake ſhe wears:
Jacob! whom now ſhe views with partial eye,
Nor paſs'd his ſlighteſt deeds unnotic'd by.

Nor

Nor were their thoughts to Love alone confin'd,
To mutual vows inſtructive talk they join'd.
As how the ſtars in beauteous order ſtood,
And each the ſplendid witneſs of a God!—
Their ſigns and ſeaſons they obſerve with care,
And mark their influence on the earth and air:
Which threats their flocks, or which deſtroys their vines,
And which with good, or baleful aſpect ſhines.

Thus paſs'd their time. When *Laban* now beheld
His flocks increaſe, his vines more cluſters yield;
Pleas'd with his growing wealth, he ſtrait prepares
To offer ſome reward for *Jacob*'s cares.
Jacob, whoſe heart nor gold nor gems could move,
Look'd with diſdain on all — but *Rachel*'s Love;
And thus reply'd. " If gracious *Laban* means
" Or to reward my paſt, or future pains;
" Bleſs, with a bounteous hand, bleſs all my life,
" And give me lovely *Rachel* for a Wife.

" I aſk

A N I E S.

Love alone confin'd,
alk they join'd.
s order ſtood,
s of a God!—
obſerve with care,
the earth and air:
or which deſtroys their

aleful aſpect ſhines.

hen *Laban* now beheld
more cluſters yield;
lth, he ſtrait prepares
Jacob's cares.
nor gems could move,
— but *Rachel*'s Love;
ious *Laban* means
or future pains;
nd, bleſs all my life,
chel for a Wife.

" I aſk

" I aſk no dow'r my fortunes to improve,
" Rich in poſſeſſion of my *Rachel*'s Love.
" Let ſordid ſwains, whom thirſt of gain invites
" To woo the Fair-One to the nuptial rites,
" Bargain for Love, and ſell their vows for gold;
" But let not *Rachel*, like her ſheep, be ſold.
" *Rachel!* whoſe beauty ſoftens ev'ry breaſt,
" Whoſe worth outweighs the treaſures of the Eaſt!
" Full ſev'n long years I'll ſerve thee for the Maid;
" The toil looks pleaſing, when ſo well repaid."

Laban conſents, and *Jacob* joys to find
The Sire as courteous as the Daughter kind,
Nor e'er ſuſpects the depths of *Laban*'s mind.
His upright heart, as yet, no guile could ſee;
He thought men honeſt, as they ſeem'd to be.
But when the long-expected day appears,
That *Rachel* ſhould reward her *Jacob*'s cares,
When with united hearts they join to bleſs
The firſt fair dawnings of their mutual peace;
Laban prepares a banquet, and invites
The neighb'ring ſwains to grace the nuptial rites.

In num'rous crouds they came from diſtant lands,
To hail the Bride, with preſents in their hands;
Rich ſparkling wines, or firſtlings of the flock,
Or ſwelling cluſters from the pendent rock.
A flowing mantle lovely *Rachel* wore,
Emboſs'd with gems, with gold embroider'd o'er;
In wanton ringlets wav'd her aubourn hair,
Succinct her robe, her buſkin'd legs half bare.
She gave the health, She welcom'd ev'ry gueſt,
And ſeem'd to all the Miſtreſs of the Feaſt.

But when the ſun withdrew his kindling beams,
And the laſt ray danc'd faintly on the ſtreams;
The guileful *Laban*, whoſe long-frozen breaſt
No more the youthful pow'r of Love confeſt,
Obſerv'd how *Leah* often look'd aſkance,
And caſt on *Rachel* many an envious glance,
Himſelf the willing wayward damſel led
To *Rachel*'s Place, and ſeiz'd the bridal bed.

But when the morn appear'd, and by his ſide
Jacob beheld his unexpected Bride;

Enrag'd,

Enrag'd, he ſmot
And ſorrowing ſo
And thus upbraid
" The taſteleſs *L*
" Did I ſerve the
" And doſt thou
" Little waſt Th
" How God has
" What time I'v
wrong?
" Have or thy Ev
" That which wa
" I bare the loſs,
" Thus, thus I v
" Endur'd the ſu
" Unrighteous M
" I ſerv'd for *Ra*

Laban reply'd,
" My firſt-born *L*
" Know, 'tis our
" To give the you

LLANIES.

y came from diſtant lands,
preſents in their hands;
or firſtlings of the flock,
n the pendent rock.
Rachel wore,
with gold embroider'd o'er;
'd her aubourn hair,
buſkin'd legs half bare.
he welcom'd ev'ry gueſt,
Miſtreſs of the Feaſt.

ithdrew his kindling beams,
d faintly on the ſtreams;
whoſe long-frozen breaſt
pow'r of Love confeſt,
ten look'd aſkance,
ny an envious glance,
ayward damſel led
d ſeiz'd the bridal bed.

n appear'd, and by his ſide
expected Bride;

Enrag'd,

Enrag'd, he ſmote his breaſt, his clothes he rent,
And ſorrowing ſought the faithleſs *Laban*'s tent,
And thus upbraids "What haſt thou done? Why led
" The taſteleſs *Leah* to my nuptial bed?
" Did I ſerve thee for Her? ungentle fair! —
" And doſt thou *thus* reward my honeſt care?
" Little waſt Thou, thou know'ſt it, ere I came;
" How God has bleſt thee ſince, let Me proclaim.
" What time I've ſerv'd thee, have I done thee wrong?
" Have or thy Ews or Goats once caſt their Young?
" That which was torn of beaſts I brought thee not,
" I bare the loſs, nor haſt thou ſuffer'd aught.
" Thus, thus I was; for Thee my ſleep I loſt,
" Endur'd the ſummer's ſun, and winter's froſt.
" Unrighteous Man! is this then my return?
" I ſerv'd for *Rachel* — but for *Leah* mourn."

Laban reply'd, " What tho', young man, I led
" My firſt-born *Leah* to thy arms, and bed;
" Know, 'tis our country's cuſtom: 'twere a crime
" To give the younger firſt — yet *both* are thine,

" If, with thy boaſted fondneſs, thou canſt bear
" Sev'n added years of ſervitude and care."

Ill-fated *Jacob!* who muſt now embrace
Theſe hard conditions of his happineſs,
Or loſe his lovely Maid, his much-lov'd Fair!
Source of his woes, and partner of his care —
Twice ſev'n long years! 'twas hard for Love to bear.
Yet all his trials well did he ſuſtain,
And *Rachel* ſhar'd, or ſoften'd ev'ry pain,
Till Heav'n at length confirm'd Her all his own;
When, to their mutual joy, She bare a ſon,
And thence enjoy'd his Love unrival'd, and alone.

Written on ſome Ivory Leaves.

YE ſpotleſs Leaves! by all confeſt
Fair emblems of your Miſtreſs' breaſt.
Thrice happy He of human race,
Whoſe Name in this fair Book has place!
O happier ſtill, whoe'er thou art,
Whoſe Name's engraven on her Heart!

The