ODE

TO CONDUIT VALE,

BLACKHEATH.

DEAR tranquil shades, where freedom reigns,
  Where calm content has fix'd her seat,
Lost to the world, its joys, its pains,
  With thee I find a safe retreat;
The shafts of scorn or envy fail,
Alike, to reach my peaceful vale.

'Tis here with friendship's soothing smile
  The gentle charities appear,
With converse sweet the hours beguile,
  And steal away the frowning year;
To you, ye kind affections hail!
Most welcome to my peaceful vale.

Though torn from those delightful ties
  Which hold the heart to life and light,
Remembrance still the loss supplies,
  And fancy gives them to my sight;

Her dear delusive
And oft they bles

The treasur'd hea
  The page wher
For me shall spre
  And fill with va
Perhaps the muse
May deign to seel

Thus far from pr
  Thus far from
I walk unseen, n
  A joy the hear
Let others spread
I quit no more n

D E

UIT VALE,

KHEATH.

les, where freedom reigns,
nt has fix'd her seat,
s joys, its pains,
safe retreat;
r envy fail,
peaceful vale.

lship's soothing smile
es appear,
t the hours beguile,
e frowning year;
ections hail!
y peaceful vale.

hose delightful ties
heart to life and light,
the loss supplies,
hem to my sight;

Her dear delusive powers prevail,
And oft they bless my peaceful vale.

The treasur'd heaps of ancient lore,
The page where modern genius plays,
For me shall spread their boundless store,
And fill with varying thought my days;
Perhaps the muse by twilight pale
May deign to seek my peaceful vale.

Thus far from pride of wealth and show,
Thus far from poverty and care,
I walk unseen, nor wish to know
A joy the heart disdains to share;
Let others spread the vent'rous sail,
I quit no more my peaceful vale.