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# Sterne's Maria

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## STERNE's *MARIA*.

— — — — —  
**T** WAS near a thicket's calm retreat,  
Beneath a poplar tree ;  
*MARIA* chose a wretched seat,  
To mourn her sorrows free.

Her lovely form was fair to view,  
As dawn at op'ning day ;  
But ah, she mourn'd her love not true,  
And wept her cares away.

The brook flow'd gently at her feet,  
In murmurs smooth along ;  
Her pipe which once she tun'd most sweet,  
Had now forgot its song.

No more to charm the vale she tries,  
For grief had fill'd her breast ;  
Those joys which once she us'd to prize,  
E'er love destroyed her rest.

Poor hapless maid who can behold,  
Thy sorrows so severe ;  
And hear thy love-lorn story told,  
Without a falling tear.

*MARIA* luckless maid adieu,  
Thy sorrows soon must cease ;  
For heaven will take a maid so true,  
To everlasting peace.