

“I REJOICE IN THE PRESENT, AND
HAVE BETTER THINGS
IN STORE.”



THE little wild strawberry-plant leads “melodious days” indeed. Happy in the present, still richer in the future. There are moments in life when one would like to be it, or anything, whose fate is overruled for good by irresistible power ; the flower of whose youth is the sure forerunner of worthy fruit in ripe age ; which can yield to the storm without suffering, and cling safely without effort to earth’s protecting bosom.

We too, indeed, must lie still, and let the winds of Heaven do their will upon us ; but the necessity is our cross and not our comfort—no ease, but a fierce wrestling, of which that of Jacob with the angel is but a type—not bodily, or this would be the age of virtuous men, but spiritual—a wrest-