

THREE SINGERS.

JAMES THOMPSON [B.V.].

Singer of Dürer's matchless Queen of Pain,
 Incomparable song was thine to pour
 Into thy starless heaven; let them adore
The sunshine who have never known blind rain
The stormy skies; who never loved in vain
 Know not the enchanted land of Nevermore,
 Where darkness broods in sorrow, and the roar
Breaks louder on the strand of life's sad main.

Son of the luminous Dark, intensest woe
 Loosened thy tongue; thy drooping lips have paid
The debt of agony that thou did'st owe
 To the sad earth that bore thee: thou art laid
 Within her bosom. Be thou not afraid,—
Not any pain thou ever more shalt know.