

HER ABSENCE WILL NOT ALTER ME.

THO' distant far from Jeffy's charms,
I stretch, in vain, my longing arms ;
Tho' parted by the deeps of sea,
Her absence will not alter me ;
Tho' beauteous nymphs I see around,
A Chloris, Flora, might be found,
Or Phillis, with her roving eye ;
Her absence shall not alter me.

A fairer face, a sweeter smile,
Inconstant lovers may beguile ;
But to my lass I'll constant be,
Nor shall her absence alter me ;
Though laid on India's burning coast,
Or on the wide Atlantic toft,
My mind from love no pow'r could free,
Nor could her absence alter me.

See how the flow'r that courts the sun,
Pursues him till his race is run ;
See how the needle seeks the pole,
Nor distance can his pow'r controul ;
Shall lifeless flow'rs the sun pursue ?
The needle to the pole prove true ?
Like them shall I not faithful be,
Or shall her absence alter me ?

Ask, who has seen the turtle dove
Unfaithful to its marriage prove ?
Or who the bleating ewe has seen
Desert her lambkin on the green ?
Shall beasts and birds, inferior far
To us, display their love and care ?
Shall they in union sweet agree,
And shall her absence alter me ?

For conqu'ring love is strong as death,
Like veh'ment flames his pow'rful breath ;
Thro' floods unmov'd, his course he keeps,
Ev'n thro' the sea's devouring deeps ;
His veh'ment flames my bosom burn,
Unchang'd they blaze till thy return ;
My faithful Jeffy then shall see,
Her absence has not alter'd me.

Her absence will not alter me.

Violin

Moderately Slow

Tho' distant far from Jefsy's charms, I stretch in vain my longing

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as us, Tho' parted by the deeps of sea, Her absence will not alter me.

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Tho' beauteous nymphs I see around, A Chloris, Flora, might be found, Or

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Phyllis with her roving eye; Her absence will not alter me.

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