4b. O Jean I love thee

Koželuch
Thomson 2nd Set (1798), 29

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O were I on Parnassus hill; Or had o' Helicon, my fill,
That I might catch poetical skill, To sing how dear I love thee. But...
Nith maun be my Muse's well, My Muse maun be thy bonie sell; On

Cor - si - con I'll glow'r and spell, And write how dear I

love thee.
O WERE I ON PARNASSUS HILL.

By Robert Burns.

AIR. - O JEAN I LOVE THEE.

O were I on Parnassus hill;  
Or had o' Helicon my fill,  
That I might catch poetic skill,  
To sing how dear I love thee.  
But Nith maun be my Muse's well,  
My Muse maun be thy bonie sell;  
On Corsicon* I'll glow'r and spell,  
And write how dear I love thee.

Then come, sweet Muse, inspire my lay!  
For a' the lee-lang simmer's day,  
I cou'd na sing, I cou'd na say,  
How much, how dear I love thee.  
I see thee dancing o'er the green,  
Thy waist sae jimp, thy limbs sae clean,  
Thy tempting lips, thy glancing een,  
By heaven and earth I love thee.

Then come, sweet Muse, inspire my lay!  
For a' the lee-lang simmer's day,  
I cou'd na sing, I cou'd na say,  
How much, how dear I love thee.  
I see thee dancing o'er the green,  
Thy waist sae jimp, thy limbs sae clean,  
Thy tempting lips, thy glancing een,  
By heaven and earth I love thee.

By night, by day, a field, at hame,  
The thoughts o' thee my breast inflame;  
And ay I muse and sing thy name,  
I only live to love thee.  
Tho' I were doom'd to wander on,  
Beyond the sea, beyond the sun,  
'Till my last weary sand was run,  
'Till then - and then I love thee.

* A high hill near the source of the river Nith.

IF WINE AND MUSIC HAVE THE POWER.

By Prior.

AIR. - THE SAME AIR.

If wine and music have the pow' r  
To ease the sickness of the soul,  
Let Phoebus every string explore,  
And Bacchus fill the sprightly bowl.  
Let them their friendly aid employ  
To make my Chloe's absence light,  
And seek for pleasure, to destroy  
The sorrows of this live-long night.

But she to-morrow will return:  
Venus, be thou to-morrow great;  
Thy myrtles strew, thy odours burn,  
And meet thy fav'rite nymph in state.  
Kind goddess! to no other pow'rs  
Let us to-morrow's blessings own;  
The darling loves shall guide the hours,  
And all the day be thine alone.