

St John's River Nova Scotia 1781

I ne'er would care how blew the wind
Nor tedious should I think my stay

Ah! That was once my happy lot
When I to house & home was blest
^{I'd then}
~~And~~ a fair companion got
With many a female Charms possess

yes dearest Sally — you was fair
Nor only fair — But kind & good

Sweetly together did we share
The blessings Heaven on us bestow'd

Nor scantily did Heaven shower down
Those gifts which render life a blessing
But did our cup with plenty crown
Nor let us feel what was distressing

'Till base Rebellion did display
Her banners foul — with false portents

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Then kindly Heav'n took you away
From evils which have happen'd since

And careless me — ^{when I had} ~~now that I am~~ lost
^{all its}
Of ~~the~~ blessings far the best
^{Did I} ~~had~~ ^{lost} — & justly at my cost
The worth of what I once possess

'Tis often so — we do not prize
The present good: ^{at its just rate,} ~~past and gone~~
But gone we see with other eyes
What was its worth when 'tis too late.

^{verse}
~~The~~ now one more
~~The~~ fair Ladies Nine
& there'll be one
~~made~~ a ~~poem~~ a piece for you
~~it's~~ ^{it's} way I ^{sometimes spend my} ~~time~~
When I have nothing else to do

I hope there's no harm in it — Gentlemen
with long faces!