159. “Sonnet to the Morning,” February 5, MSS V, VIII. Printed in PJR, 1:105; Works, 2:333.

Dated by Ruskin in MS VIII, where entitled simply “To the morning”; entitled “SONNET / TO THE MORNING” in MS V.

SONNET

TO THE MORNING

SEE where she comes the mountain mists of night

Scarce yet unwreathing their fantastic shapes

Of pinnacle and tow’r when morn awakes

Fainter and fainter in confusing flight

Leave hill and vale all wrapt in rosy light

She comes she looks upon the silent lakes

The last long lingering cloud the hill forsakes

Far in the clear blue sky that heaves his height

The choral choirs that people every tree

Join with the music of the stream that flows

Adown the mountain side with jocund glee

There is a simple softness in those lays

That wakes the heart of man to piety

To hymn his fathers his creators praise

Textual note.--As compared with the edited version in Works, Ruskin’s fair copy in MS V has lines are flush, without the editors’ indentations; no punctuation, except “tow’r” (line 3); no capitalization, other than initial letters of lines, and “SEE” (line 1). In the draft in MS VIII, lines are flush; no punctuation; and no capitalization, other than initial letters of lines.

3, MS V, Works pinnacle and tow’r] <pinnacle> and tower MS VIII, but <pinnacle> not replaced by another choice

7, MS V long lingering cloud] long <cloud> lingering cloud MS VIII; Works long-lingering cloud

10, MS V flows] plays MS VIII, Works. In Works plays is incorrectly ascribed to both MSS, while flows is attributed to a misprint in PJR; however PJR prints correctly from MS V.

11, MS V, Works mountain] mountains MS VIII

13, MS V, Works heart] heart<s> MS VIII