

THE TEARS I SHED.

THE tears I shed must ever fall,

I mourn not for an absent swain,

For thought my past delights recal,

And parted lovers meet again.

I weep not for the silent dead,

Their toils are past, their forrows o'er,

And those they lov'd their steps shall tread,

And death shall join to part no more.

Tho' boundless oceans roll between,

If certain that his heart is near,

A conscious transport glads each scene,

Soft is the sigh, and sweet the tear.

E'en when by death's cold hand remov'd,

We mourn the tenant of the tomb;

To think that even in death he lov'd,

Can gild the horrors of the gloom.

But bitter, bitter are the tears

Of her who flighted love bewails;

No hope her dreary prospect chears,

No pleasing melancholy hails.

Her's are the pangs of wounded pride,

Of blasted hope, of wither'd joy:

The prop she lean'd on pierc'd her side,

The flame she fed burns to destroy.

Even conscious virtue cannot cure

The pangs to every feeling due:

Ungen'rous youth! thy boast how poor,

To steal a heart, and break it too!

In vain does memory renew

The hours once ting'd in transport's dye;

The sad reverse soon starts to view,

And turns the thought to agony.

No cold approach, no alter'd mien,

Just what would make suspicion start;

No pause the dire extremes between,

He made me blest, and broke my heart!

From hope, the wretched's anchor, torn,

Neglected, and neglecting all,

Friendless, forsaken, and forlorn,

The tears I shed must ever fall.