



HALLOW EV'N.

WHY hangs that cloud upon thy brow?
That beauteous heav'n e'erwhile serene?
Whence do these storms and tempests slow?
Or what this gust of passion mean?
And must then mankind lose that light,
Which in thine eyes was wont to shine,
And lie obscur'd in endless night,
For each poor filly speech of mine?

Dear child! how can I wrong thy name,

Thy form fo fair, and faultless, stands,

That could ill tongues abuse thy fame,

Thy beauty could make large amends:

Or, if I durst profanely try,

Thy beauty's pow'rful charms t' upbraid,

Thy virtue well might give the lie,

Nor call thy beauty to its aid.

For Venus, ev'ry heart t'enfnare,
With all her charms has deck'd thy face;
And Pallas, with unufual care,
Bids Wifdom heighten ev'ry grace;
Who can the double pain endure?
Or, who must not resign the field
To thee, celestial maid! secure
With Cupid's bow, and Pallas' shield?

If then to thee fuch pow'r is giv'n,

Let not a wretch in torment live;

But fmile, and learn to copy heaven,

Since we must fin ere it forgive.

Yet pitying heaven not only does

Forgive th' offender and th' offence,

But even itself, appeas'd, bestows,

As the reward of penitence.