

order to discover if the news which it contained, affected her—and his heart beat thick when he saw her eye quiver, and her ill-distinguishing cheek whiten, as she became acquainted with its contents. Emboldened, he took her passive hand, and poured into her listening ear, a tale of his bosom's all-absorbing love—so guileless—so passionate, and withal, so eloquently, drew such a disinterested picture of his hopes, his unworthiness, and his doubts—his fond devotedness—his painful solicitude—how lonely he would feel, if she rejected him, for save her, there was not one to feel an interest for him whilst living, or to lament him when ——.” He ceased suddenly, for a large tear fell heavily on his hand—a thrill, like electricity, shot through his frame. He raised her drooping head, and gazed on her wet and downcast face. He gasped in the excess of his expectancy ; but a dampness quickly overshadowed his brow, and his heart and hopes drooped, withering within him as he watched her, and his ready eye saw her's resume its dryness, and her blanched lip again become florid.

“ Reginald,” she said firmly, “ it cannot be,”

“ Wherefore, my own love ?” exclaimed the impassioned youth.

“ We are *Cousins* !” responded the collected maiden.

“ And do not cousins internarry ? quickly he asked.

“ Yes, but——”

“ Oh *but* me me not thus” exclaimed he passionately, interrupting her, for silently and fondly, have I thought of you, and loved you, and long, long have I resisted these feelings, and tried to drown them within my breast, for I doubted that I was worthy of you—but all in vain.—I have checked my desires until they have accumulated in their strength, and swept away the feeble barrier that I have opposed to them. Oh ! if you knew how many and many a day has had its hours consumed in thought of you—how many a sleepless night I have passed, with nought to cheer its loneliness, but your dear image. Oh ! did you know how I used to feel, gazing on the full bright moon, careering thro' its cloudless sky, and wishing that like that moon, I might have the power to traverse space, to enjoy the privilege of watching over