

CHARADE.

BY LORD NUGENT.

THE dawning of hope and the pledge of young love
 In the cherub-like form of my first you may show,
 The innocent type of the angels above,
 And the dearest of gifts to fond mortals below.

By priest and by mourner my second is worn ;
 The recluse and the widowed oftentimes wear it ;
 'Twas a name by two brave British admirals borne ;
 But Falsehood, and Womanhood equally bear it.

My short happy whole we have all of us known,
 A stranger alike to guilt and to pain :
 Its memory we cherish, regret it when flown ;
 Yet, alas ! in our age dread to meet it again.



THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT.

WHEN I heard some prisoners tried at the Old Bailey, I was particularly pleased with the amiable manner in which the judge summed up the evidence ; for when any matter was at all doubtful, he invariably directed the jury to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt. This was generous, and contrary to the frequent practice of mankind, who are too apt to judge harshly of their neighbours, and to see every thing in the darkest point of view against those who have had the misfortune to transgress, in any degree, the strict laws of integrity. As I particularly love and admire amiableness, I have endeavoured, ever since to imitate the spirit of the judge, who, like charity herself, thinketh no evil. In a word, I have practised the pleasant principle of the benefit of the doubt in every case to which it is at all applicable, and I really think that it has rendered me one of the most amiable creatures in the world. For instance, in the morning, when I wake, which may be at eight, nine, ten, eleven or twelve o'clock, I may perhaps think that it is time to get up, but I am rather