THE ALTER'D LAY.

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I GAVE the strain to wild despair,

When pleasure's sweetest scenes had faded, When youth's gay dreams, so bright and fair, Misfortune's murky cloud had shaded.

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But still, tho' sorrow rul'd the song,

And grief, that gay delights would perish, Would Hope a softer note prolong, And bid my breast her influence cherish.