

Some fears,—a soft regret
For joys scarce known;
Sweet looks we half forget;
All else is flown !

Ah ! with what thankless heart
I mourn and sing.
Look where your children start
Like sudden spring:
With tongues all sweet and low
Like a pleasant rhyme,
They tell how much I owe,
To thee and thine !

OBITUARY OF DISTINGUISHED MEN.

(Continued from page 139.)

THE LATE SIR JAMES MACINTOSH.

THE death of Sir James Mackintosh has been deeply felt in the political world, as well as in the circles of literature and science. Sir James died in his sixty-sixth year, having been born in 1766. He was a native of Inverness-shire. He was intended for the profession of medicine, and studied at Edinburgh with that view; and he had even taken a medical degree before he betook himself to the more congenial study of the law. He first became known to fame by the publication of the "*Vindiciæ Gallicæ*," in answer to Burke's celebrated book on the French Revolution. By this splendid work he at once achieved a reputation both brilliant and solid. At that period the sun of French liberty seemed to be rising in cloudless tranquillity. Its rays were cheering to all the friends of humanity, and no signs were then apparent of the storms in which it was destined to set. Burke's sagacity, in discerning those latent signs has been applauded at the expense of truth. When the storm came, it was not from the quarter nor produced by the causes from which he prognosticated it: and any one who reads this celebrated controversy will find that the chivalrous declamations of Burke are confuted by his equally eloquent and far more logical antagonist. That the mysterious decrees of Providence brought about a course of events which no human sagacity could have foreseen, is a circumstance which detracts nothing from the soundness of Mackintosh's reasoning.

The publication of the "*Vindiciæ Gallicæ*" obtained for the youthful author great consideration among the Whigs. He was thus induced to establish himself in London; and delivered lectures on public law, at Lincoln's Inn, which were highly valued, and contributed to his advancement. During the short Whig Administration, he was employed in the defence of Peltier, in the celebrated trial of that individual at the instance of the Chief Consul of France. His speech on that occasion will descend to posterity among the finest specimens of English forensic eloquence. He was appointed Recorder of Bombay, and resided, we believe,