Poetry.

TO RELIGION.

Religion I heavenly maid I
Who lend'st thy willing aid
To hear the pilgrim on his thorny way;
Whose light athwart the gloom,
That saddens o'er the tomb, Gives the sweet promise of a future day; In vain the savage fees of man consider. To shake thy stable throne, and quench thy hallow'd fire

> For though on summer seas Th' adventurer courts the breeze,
> Nor heeds thy warming cone, while sirens sing,
> In life's declining hour,
> When clouds begin to low'r,

And hopes fallacious vanish on the wing;
What guidance shall he trust but thine alone,
Appall'd by coming night, and on a coast unknown?

When reft of every stay, Ho sees them swept away, Whom love and friendship in his fortunes join'd; What time with streaming eyes
He mourns the sover'd ties
That ardent youth first fasten'd on the mind:
To whose kind counsel shall the wretch attend
But thine, that ever breathes the fervour of a friend?

Let philosophic pride Our fears and woes deride, And arm the calous breast in stubborn steel;

Thy lips a wisnous truch Beyond the stole's reach; Thy votaries learn to triumph while they feel;—
With sober joy receive the boons that flow,
And bless the chast'ning hand that deals th' afflictive blow

O maid for ever mild,
Sweet mercy's darling child?
Blay those who plead the cause the spirit share?
For in the Hermit's cell
Should hate or envy dwell,
Should pride, or blind presumption enter there,
What boots the suppliant voice, the bended knee?
He follows faithless guides, and wanders far from There. O maid for ever mild,

-Mercer.

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Provincial Secretary's Office,

November 22, 1856.

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Timours

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Dec. 20.

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