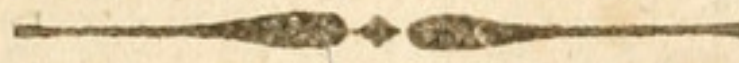

THE
UNFORTUNATE RAMBLER.



LATE on an evening I chanced to roam,
The night it was dark, and the streets
they were dirty;

It was to attend the lov'd Celia home,
Engag'd in a company jovial and hearty.

I instantly hasten'd to put on my shield,
The shield of indiff'rence, perhaps you
may know it;

Appriz'd of the danger attending the field,
I judg'd it a piece of high prudence to
shew it.

I went to the door of an elegant inn ;
I heard who was there, and was fearful to
venture :

Hope to embolden me then did begin,
And courage undaunted advis'd me to en-
ter.

I quickly stepp'd forward, but struck with
amaze,
By imminent danger I then was furround-
ed:

Three handsome young damsels upon me
did gaze,
And all of a sudden, alas ! I was wounded.

Their shafts were set right, and their arrows
did fly ;

I scarce could distinguish from whom they
came thickest.

By Cupid's assistance at last I did spy
The person best tim'd in her motions, and
quickest.

Each gesture was killing, and gave me surprife ;

I grop'd for my breast-plate, it from me was taken :

My ſhield of indiff'rence had left me like-wife ;

My courage did fail, and my heart it was ſhaken.

Thus finding myſelf in a pitiful plight ;

A young maid ſo handſome I needs muſt admire :

I gave a deep ſigh, and I bid them goodnight ;

My only expedient was—to retire.

A little of abſence effected the cure,

So happily I of my wounds did recover ;

But now at a diſtance to keep I'll be ſure,

And laugh at the fate of a vanquiſhed lover.