



## SONNET IX.

**P**EACE to thy ashes, to thy mem'ry fame,  
 Bright paragon of merit feminine,  
 In forming whom kind nature did inshrine  
 A mind angelick in a faultless frame ;

Through ev'ry stage of changing life the same,  
 How did thy bright example ceaseless shine,  
 And ev'ry grace with ev'ry virtue join  
 To raise the virgin's and the matron's name ?

In thee religion cheërful and serene  
 Unsour'd by superstition, spleen, or pride,  
 Through all the social offices of life  
 To shed its genuine influence was seen ;  
 This thy chief ornament, thy surest guide,  
 This form'd the daughter, parent, friend, and wife.