

XXIV.

THE NUN.



*“ Est via quæ videtur homini justa : novissima autem ejus deducunt hominem ad mortem.”—Proverb. iv.*

Here is a mixture of gallantry and religion. The young lady has admitted her lover into her apartment. She is kneeling before an altar, and hesitates whether to persist in her devotions or listen to the amorous music of the young man, who, seated on a bed, touches a theorbo lute. Death extinguishes the candles on the altar, by which the designer of the subject probably intimates the punishment of unlawful love.