Landesbibliothek Oldenburg

Digitalisierung von Drucken

The History Of Tom Jones, A Foundling

In Four Volumes

Fielding, Henry London, 1750

Book VIII. Containing above two Days.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-884

and floudd be wery glad of the Leveur of feeting,

reducing a sex of the English party and the sex of the

HISTOR of cl. indiano ma conv. and the non-

FOUNDLING.

BOOK VIII.

Containing above two Days.

CHAP. I.

A wonderful long Chapter concerning the Marvellous; being much the longest of all our introductory Chapters.

S we are now entering upon a Book, in which the Course of our History will oblige us to relate fome Matters of a more strange and surprizing Kind than any which have hitherto occurred, it may not be amis in the prolegomenous, or introductory Chapter, to fay fomething of that Species of Writing which is called the Marvellous. To this we shall, as well for the Sake of ourselves, as of others, endeayour to fet fome certain Bounds; and indeed nothing

nothing can be more necessary, as Critics * of different Complexions are here apt to run into very different Extremes; for while some are, with M. Dacier, ready to allow, that the same Thing which is impossible may be yet probable +, others have so little Historic or Poetic Faith, that they believe nothing to be either possible or probable, the like to which hath not occurred to their own Observation.

First then, I think, it may very reasonably be required of every Writer, that he keeps within the Bounds of Possibility; and still remembers that what it is not possible for Man to perform, it is scarce possible for Man to believe he did perform. This Conviction, perhaps, gave Birth to many Stories of the antient Heathen Deities (for most of them are of poetical Original.) Poet, being desirous to indulge a wanton and extravagant Imagination, took Refuge in that Power, of the Extent of which his Readers were no Judges, or rather which they imagined to be infinite, and confequently they could not be shocked at any Prodigies related of it. This hath been strongly urged in Defence of Homer's Miracles; and it is, perhaps, a Defence; not, as Mr. Pope would have it, because Ulysses told a Set of foolish Lies to the Phaacians, who were a very dull Nation; but because the Poet himself wrote to Heathens, to whom poetical Fables were Articles of Faith. For my own Part, I must confess, so compassionate is my Temper, I wish Polypheme had confined himself to his Milk

† It is happy for M. Dacier that he was not an Irishman.

^{*} By this Word here, and in most other Parts of our Work, we mean every Reader in the World.

Diet, and preferved his Eye; nor could Ulyffes be much more concerned than myfelf, when his Companions were turned into Swine by Circe, who shewed, I think, afterwards, too much Regard for Man's Flesh to be supposed capable of converting it into Bacon. I wish, likewise, with all my Heart, that Homer could have known the Rule prescribed by Horace, to introduce supernatural Agents as feldom as possible. We should not then have feen his Gods coming on trivial Errands, and often behaving themseves so as not only to forfeit all Title to Respect, but to become the Objects of Scorn and Derifion. A Conduct which must have shocked the Credulity of a pious and fagacious Heathen; and which could never have been defended, unless by agreeing with a Supposition to which I have been fometimes almost inclined, that this most glorious Poet, as he certainly was, had an Intent to burlefque the superstitious Faith of his own Age and Country.

But I have rested too long on a Doctrine which can be of no Use to a Christian Writer: For as he cannot introduce into his Works any of that heavenly Host which make a Part of his Creed; so is it horrid Puerility to search the Heathen Theology for any of those Deities who have been long since dethroned from their Immortality. Lord Shaftesbury observes, that nothing is more cold than the Invocation of a Muse by a Modern; he might have added that nothing can be more absurd. A Modern may with much more Elegance invoke a Ballad, as some have thought Homer did, or a Muse of Ale with the Author of Hudibras; which latter may perhaps have in-

Ch. t. a FOUNDLING. 173

spired much more Poetry as well as Prose, than

all the Liquors of Hippocrene or Helicon.

The only supernatural Agents which can in any Manner be allowed to us Moderns, are Ghosts; but of these I would advise an Author to be extremely sparing. These are indeed like Arsenic, and other dangerous Drugs in Physic, to be used with the utmost Caution; nor would I advise the Introduction of them at all in those Works, or by those Authors to which, or to whom a Horse-Laugh in the Reader would be any great Prejudice or Mortification.

As for Elves and Fairies, and other such Mummery, I purposely omit the Mention of them, as I should be very unwilling to confine within any Bounds those surprizing Imaginations, for whose vast Capacity the Limits of human Nature are too narrow; whose Works are to be considered as a new Creation; and who have consequently just Right to do what they will with their

own.

Man therefore is the highest Subject (unless on very extraordinary Occasions indeed) which prefents itself to the Pen of our Historian, or of our Poet; and in relating his Actions, great Care is to be taken, that we do not exceed the Capacity

of the Agent we describe.

Nor is Poffibility alone fufficient to justify us, we must keep likewise within the Rules of Probability. It is, I think, the Opinion of Aristotle; or if not, it is the Opinion of some wise Man, whose Authority will be as weighty, when it is as old; 'that it is no Excuse for a Poet who relates what is incredible, that the thing related is really Matter of Fact.' This may perhaps be allowed true with regard to Poetry, but it may

The HISTORY of Book VIII. 174

be thought impracticable to extend it to the Historian: For he is obliged to record Matters as he finds them; though they may be of fo extraordinary a Nature, as will require no finall Degree of historical Faith to swallow them. Such was the fuccessless Armament of Xerxes, described by Herodotus, or the successful Expedition of Alexander related by Arrian. Such of later Years was the Victory of Agincourt obtained by Harry the Fifth, or that of Narva won by Charles the Twelfth of Sweden. All which Inflances, the more we reflect on them, appear still the more aftonish ng.

Such Facts, however, as they occur in the Thread of the Story; nay, indeed, as they constitute the essential Parts of it, the Historian is not only justifiable in recording as they really happened; but indeed would be unpardonable, should he omit or alter them. But there are other Facts not of such Consequence nor so necessary, which tho' ever so well attested, may nevertheless be facrificed to Oblivion in Complaisance to the Scepticism of a Reader. Such is that memorable Story of the Ghost of George Villers, which might with more Propriety have been made a Prefent of to Dr. Drelincourt, to have kept the Ghost of Mrs. Veale Company, at the Head of his Discourse upon Death, than have been introduced into fo folemn a Work as the History of the Rebellion.

To fay the Truth, if the Historian will confine himself to what really happened, and utterly reject any Circumstance, which, tho' never so well attested, he must be well assured is false, he will fometimes fall into the Marvellous, but never into the Incredible. He will often raife the

Wonder

Wonder and Surprize of his Reader, but never that incredulous Hatred mentioned by Horace. It is by falling into Fiction therefore, that we generally offend against this Rule, of deferting Probability, which the Historian seldom if ever quits, till he forfakes his Character, and commences a Writer of Romance. In this, however, those Historians who relate publick Transactions have the Advantage of us who confine ourselves to Scenes of private Life. The Credit of the former is by common Notoriety supported for a long Time; and publick Records, with the concurrent Testimony of many Authors, bear Evidence to their Truth in future Ages. a Trajan and an Antoninus, a Nero and a Caligula, have all met with the Belief of Posterity; and no one doubts but that Men fo very good, and so very bad, were once the Masters of Mankind.

But we who deal in private Character, who fearch into the most retired Recesses, and draw forth Examples of Virtue and Vice, from Holes and Corners of the World, are in a more dangerous Situation. As we have no publick Notoriety, no concurrent Testimony, no Records to support and corroborate what we deliver, it becomes us to keep within the Limits not only of Possibility, but of Probability too; and this more especially in painting what is greatly good and amiable. Knavery and Folly, though never so exorbitant, will more easily meet with Assent; for Ill-nature adds great Support and Strength to Faith.

Thus we may, perhaps, with little Danger, relate the History of Fifter; who having long owed his Bread to the Generofity of Mr. Derby,

and having one Morning received a confiderable Bounty from his Hands, yet in order to poffels himself of what remained in his Friend's Scrutore, concealed himfelf in a publick Office of the Temple, through which there was a Paffage into Mr. Derby's Chambers. Here he overheard Mr. Derby for many Hours folacing himfelf at an Entertainment which he that Evening gave his Friends, and to which Fifter had been invited. During all this Time, no tender, no grateful Reflections arose to restrain his Purpose; but when the poor Gentleman had let his Company out through the Office, Fisher came suddenly from his lurking Place, and walking foftly behind his Friend into his Chamber, discharged a Pistol-Ball into his Head. This may be believed, when the Bones of Fisher are as rotten as his Heart. Nay, perhaps, it will be credited that the Villain went two Days afterwards with fome young Ladies to the Play of Hamlet; and with an unaltered Countenance heard one of the Ladies, who little fuspected how near she was to the Person, cry out, ' Good God! if the Man that murdered Mr. Derby was now present! Manifesting in this a more seared and callous Conscience than even Nero himself; of whom we are told by Suetonius, ' that the Consciouse ness of his Guilt, after the Death of his Mother, became immediately intolerable, and fo · continued; nor could all the Congratulations of the Soldiers, of the Senate, and the People, allay the Horrors of his Conscience.'

But now, on the other Hand, should I tell my Reader, that I had known a Man whose penetrating Genius had enabled him to raise a large Fortune in a Way where no Beginning was chaulked out to him: That he had done this with the most perfect Preservation of his Integrity, and not only without the least Injustice or Injury to any one individual Person, but with the highest Advantage to Trade, and a vast Increase of the public Revenue: That he had expended one Part of the Income of this Fortune in discovering a Taste superior to most, by Works where the highest Dignity was united with the purest Simplicity, and another Part in displaying a Degree of Goodness superior to all Men, by Acts of Charity to Objects whose only Recommendations were their Merits, or their Wants: That he was most industrious in searching after Merit in Distress, most eager to relieve it, and then as careful (perhaps too careful) to conceal what he had done: That his House, his Furniture, his Garden, his Table, his private Hospitality, and his public Beneficence, all denoted the Mind from which they flowed, and were all intrinsically rich and noble, without Tinsel, or external Oftentation: That he filled every Relation in Life with the most adequate Virtue: That he was most piously religious to his Creator, most zealously loyal to his Sovereign; a most tender Husband to his Wife, a kind Relation, a munificent Patron, a warm and firm Friend, a knowing and a chearful Companion, indulgent to his Servants, hospitable to his Neighbours, charitable: to the Poor, and benevolent to all Mankind. Should I add to thefe the Epithets of wife, brave, elegant, and indeed every other amiable Epithet in our Language, I might furely fay,

-Quis credet ? nemo Hercule! nemo;, Velduo, vel nemo.

I 5.

And yet I know a Man who is all I have here described. But a single Instance (and I really know not such another) is not sufficient to justify us, while we are writing to thousands who never heard of the Person, nor of any thing like him. Such Raræ Aves should be remitted to the Epitaph-Writer, or to some Poet, who may condescend to hitch him in a Distich, or to slide him into a Rhime with an Air of Carelesness and Neglect, without giving any Offence to the Reader.

In the last Place, the Actions should be such as may not only be within the Compass of human Agency, and which human Agents may probably be supposed to do; but they should be likely for the very Actors and Characters themselves to have performed: For what may be only wonderful and surprizing in one Man, may become improbable, or indeed impossible, when related of another.

This last Requisite is what the dramatic Critics call Confervation of Character; and it requires a very extraordinary Degree of Judgment, and a

most exact Knowledge of human Nature.

It is admirably remarked by a most excellent Writer, That Zeal can no more hurry a Man to act in direct Opposition to itself, than a rapid Stream can carry a Boat against its own Current. I will venture to say, that for a Man to act in direct Contradiction to the Dictates of his Nature, is, if not impossible, as improbable and as miraculous as any Thing which can well be conceived. Should the best Parts of the Story of M. Antoninus be ascribed to Noro, or should the worst Incidents of Noro's Life be imputed to Antoninus, what would be more shocking to Belief than either Instance? whereas both these being related

Ch. 7. a FOUNDLING. 179
Of their proper Agent, constitute the Truly Marvellous.

Our modern Authors of Comedy have fallen almost universally into the Error here hinted at : Their Heroes generally are notorious Rogues, and their Heroines abandoned Jades, during the first four Acts; but in the fifth, the former become very worthy Gentlemen, and the latter, Women of Virtue and Discretion: Nor is the. Writer often fo kind as to give himself the least Trouble, to reconcile or account for this monstrous Change and Incongruity. There is, indeed, no other Reason to be assigned for it, than because the Play is drawing to a Conclusion; as if it was no less natural in a Rogue to repent in the last Act of a Play, than in the last of his Life; which we perceive to be generally the Cafe at Tyburn, a Place which might, indeed, close the Scene of some Comedies with much Propriety, as the Heroes in these are most commonly eminent for those very Talents which not only bring Men to the Gallows, but enable them to make an heroic Figure when they are there.

Within these few Restrictions, I think, every Writer may be permitted to deal as much in the Wondersul as he pleases; nay, if he thus keeps within the Rules of Credibility, the more he can surprise the Reader, the more he will engage his Attention, and the more he will charm him. As a Genius of the highest Rank observes in his 5th Chapter of the Bathos, 'The great Art of all Poetry is to mix Truth with Fiction; in order to join the Credible with the Surprizing..'

For the every good Author will confine himfelf withing the Bounds of Probability, it is by no means necessary that his Characters, or his Incidents, should be trite, common, or vulgar; fuch as happen in every Street, or in every House, or which may be met with in the home Articles of a News-Paper. Nor must he be inhibited from flewing many Perfons and Things, which may possibly have never fallen within the Knowledge of great Part of his Readers. If the Writer ffrictly observes the Rules abovementioned, he hath discharged his Part; and is then intitled to fome Faith from his Reader, who is indeed guilty of critical Infidelity if he difbelieves him. For want of a Portion of fuch Faith, I remember the Character of a young Lady of Quality, which was condemned on the Stage for being unnatural, by the unanimous Voice of a very large Assembly of Clerks and Apprentices; tho' it had the previous Suffrages of many Ladies of the first Rank; one of whom, very eminent for her Understanding, declared it was the Picture of half the young People of her Acquaintance.

CHAP. II.

In which the Landlady pays a Visit to Mr. Jones.

HEN Jones had taken Leave of his Friend the Lieutenant, he endeavoured to close his Eyes, but all in vain; his Spirits were too lively and wakeful to be lulled to Sleep. So having amused, or rather tormented himself with the Thoughts of his Sophia, till it was open. Daylight, he called for some Tea; upon which Occasion my Landlady herself vouchsafed to pay him a Visit.

This

This was indeed the first Time she had seen him, or at least had taken any Notice of him; but as the Lieutenant had assured her that he was certainly some young Gentleman of Fashion, she now determined to shew him all the Respect in her Power: for, to speak truly, this was one of those Houses where Gentlemen, to use the Language of Advertisements, meet with civil Treat-

ment for their Money. She had no fooner begun to make his Tea, than she likewise began to discourse. La! Sir, faid she, 'I think it is great Pity that such a pretty young Gentleman should undervalue himself so, as to go about with these Soldier Fellows. They call themselves Gentlemen, I warrant you; but, as my first Husband used to fay, they should remember it is we that pay them. And to be fure it is very hard upon us to be obliged to pay them, and to keep 'em too as we Publicans are. I had twenty of 'um last Night besides Officers; nay, for matter o' that, I had rather have the Soldiers than Officers: For nothing is ever good enough for those Sparks; and I am fure, if you was to fee the Bills; La, Sir, it is nothing. I have had less 'Trouble, I warrant you, with a good Squire's Family, where we take forty or fifty Shillings of a Night, besides Horses. And yet I warrants me, there is narrow a one of all those Officer Fellows, but looks upon himself to be as good as arrow a Squire of 500 l. a Year. To be sure it doth me Good to hear their Men run about after um, crying your Honour, and your Honour. Marry come up with fuch Honour, and an Ordinary at a Shilling a Head. Then there's fuch Swearing among 'um, to be fure, it frightens.

frightens me out o' my Wits; I thinks nothing can ever prosper with such wicked People. And here one of 'um has used you in so barbarous a Manner. I thought indeed how well the reft would fecure him; they all hang together; for if you had been in Danger of Death, which I am glad to fee you are not, it would have been all as one to fuch wicked People. They would have let the Murderer go. Laud have Mercy upon 'um; I would not have fuch a Sin to answer for, for the whole World. But tho' you are likely, with the Bleffing, to recover, there is Laa for him yet; and if you will employ Lawyer Small, I dareft be fworn he'll make the Fellow fly the Country for him; tho' perhaps he'll have fled the Country before; for it is here To-day and gone To-morrow with fuch Chaps. I hope, however, you will learn more Wit for the future, and return back to your Friends: I warrant they are all miserable for vour Loss; and if they was but to know what had happened. La, my feeming! I would not for the World they should. Come, come, we 6 know very well what all the Matter is; but if one won't, another will; fo pretty a Gentle-6 man need never want a Lady. I am fure, if I was as you, I would fee the finest She that ever wore a Head hanged, before I would go for a · Soldier for her .- Nay, don't blush fo (for indeed he did to a violent Degree;) why, you 6 thought, Sir, I knew nothing of the Matter, I warrant you, about Madam Sophia.' 'How,' fays Jones, starting up, ' do you know my So. · phia? . Do I! ay marry, ' cries the Landlady, 'many's the Time hath fhe lain in this "House," "With her Aunt, I suppose, fays

Ch. 2. a FOUNDLING.

"fones.' - Why there it is now,' cries the Landlady. ' Ay, ay, ay, I know the old Lady very well. And a fweet young Creature is Madam · Sophia, that's the Truth on't.' A sweet

· Creature!' cries Jones, · O Heavens!

Angels are painted fair to look like her. There's in her all that we believe of Heaven, Amazing Brightness, Purity and Truth, Eternal Toy, and everlashing Love.

6 And could I ever have imagined that you had known my Sophia!' ' I with,' fays the Landlady, ' you knew half fo much of her. What would you have given to have fat by her Bed-fide? What a delicious Neck fhe hath! · Her lovely Limbs have stretched themselves in that very Bed you now lie in.' Here!' cries Fones, hath Sophia ever laid here?' - Ay, ay, here: there; in that very Bed,' fays the Landlady, where I wish you had her this Moment; and the may with to too for any Thing I know to the contrary : For the hath mentioned your 'Name to me' - 'Ha,' cries he, ' did she ever mention her poor Jones? -- You flatter me now; I can never believe fo much,' Why then,' answered she, 'as I hope to be saved, and may the Devil fetch me, if I speak a Syllable more than the Truth. I have heard her mention " Mr. Fones; but in a civil and modest Way, I confess; yet I could perceive the thought a great deal more than the faid.' O my dear Woman,' cries Jones, ' her Thoughts of me I fhall never be worthy of. O fhe is all Gentlee nefs, Kindnefs, Goodnefs. Why was fuch a Rascal as I born, ever to give her soft Bosom a 6 Mo=

Moment's Uneafinefs? Why am I curfed? I, who would undergo all the Plagues and Miferies which any Dæmon ever invented for Mankind, to procure her any Good; nay, Torture itself could not be Misery to me, did I but know that she was happy.' Why, look you there now,' fays the Landlady, 'I told her oyou was a constant Lovier.' But pray, Madam, tell me when or where you knew any thing of me; for I never was here before, nor do I remember ever to have feen you.' Nor is it possible you should,' answered she; for you was a little Thing when I had you in my Lap at the Squire's.' - ' How the Squire's,' fays Jones, what do you know that great and good Mr. Allworthy then?' 'Yes, marry do I, favs she; 'Who in the Country doth not?'-The Fame of his Goodness indeed,' answered Jones, ' must have extended farther than this; but Heaven only can know him, can know that Benevolence which it copied from itself, and fent upon Earth as its own Pattern. Mankind are as ignorant of fuch divine Goodness, as they are unworthy of it; but none fo unworthy of it as myself. I who was raised by him. 6 to fuch a Height; taken in, as you must well know, a poor base-born Child, adopted by him, and treated as his own Son, to dare by my Follies to disoblige him, to draw his Vene geance upon me. Yes, I deferve it all: For I will never be fo ungrateful as ever to think he hath done an Act of Injustice by me. No, I deferve to be turned out of Doors, as I am. And now, Madam, fayshe, I believe you will. 6 not blame me for turning Soldier, especially, with fuch a Fortune as this in my Pocket.' At which

Ch. 3. a FOUNDLING.

which Words he shook a Purse, which had but very little in it, and which still appeared to the

Landlady to have lefs. My good Landlady was (according to vulgar Phrase) struck all of a Heap by this Relation. She answered coldly, 'That to be sure People were the best Judges what was most proper for their Circumstances .- But hark, fays she, I think I hear fomebody call. Coming! coming! the Devil's in all our Volk, nobody hath any Ears. I must go down Stairs; if you want any more Breakfast, the Maid will come up. 6 Coming!' At which Words, without taking any Leave, the flung out of the Room : For the lower Sort of People are very tenacious of Respect; and tho' they are contented to give this gratis to Persons of Quality, yet they never confer it on those of their own Order without taking care to be well paid for their Pains. bould stone

CHAP. III.

In which the Surgeon makes his second Appearance.

EFORE we proceed any farther, that the Reader may not be mistaken in imagining the Landlady knew more than she did, nor furprized that the knew fo much, it may be neceffary to inform him, that the Lieutenant had acquainted her that the Name of Sophia had been the Occasion of the Quarrel; and as for the rest of her Knowledge, the fagacious Reader will observe how she came by it in the preceding Scene. Great Curiofity was indeed mixed with her Virtues; and she never willingly suffered any one to depart from her House without enquiring as much as possible into their Names, Families and Fortunes

She was no fooner gone than Jones, instead of animadverting on her Behaviour, respected that he was in the same Bed, which he was informed had held his dear Sophia. This occasioned a thousand fond and tender Thoughts, which we would dwell longer upon, did we not consider that such kind of Lovers will make a very inconsiderable Part of our Readers.

In this Situation the Surgeon found him, when he came to dress his Wound. The Doctor, perceiving, upon Examination, that his Pulse was disordered, and hearing that he had not slept, declared that he was in great Danger: For he apprehended a Fever was coming on; which he would have prevented by Bleeding, but Jones would not submit, declaring he would lose no more Blood; and Doctor, fays he, if you will be so kind only to dress my Head, I have no doubt of being well in a Day or two.

'I wish,' answered the Surgeon, 'I could affure your being well in a Month or two. 'Well, indeed! No, no, People are not so soon

well of fuch Contusions; but, Sir, I am not at this Time of Day to be instructed in my Ope-

frations by a Patient, and I infift on making a

Revulfion before I drefs you.

Jones perfifted obstinately in his Refusal, and the Doctor at last yielded; telling him at the same Time, that he would not be answerable for the ill Consequence; and hoped he would do him the Justice to acknowledge that he had given him a contrary Advice; which the Patient promised he would.

gualipae duective aluela and most rasque co The

The Doctor retired into the Kitchin, where, addressing himself to the Landlady, he complained bitterly of the undutiful Behaviour of his Patient, who would not be blooded, though he was in a Fever.

'It is an eating Fever then,' fays the Landlady: 6 For he hath devoured two fwinging buttered Toasts this Morning for Breakfast.'

' Very likely,' fays the Doctor; 'I have known People eat in a Fever; and it is very eafily accounted for; because the Acidity occafioned by the febrile Matter, may stimulate the Nerves of the Diaphragm, and thereby occafion a Craving, which will not be eafily distinguishable from a natural Appetie; but the Aliment will not be concreted, nor affimilated into Chyle, and fo will corrode the vascular Orifices, and thus will aggravate the febrific Symptoms. Indeed I think the Gentleman in a very dangerous Way, and, if he is not blooded, I am afraid will die.'

Every Man must die some Time or other,' answered the good Woman; it is no Business of mine. I hope, Doctor, you would not have me hold him while you bleed him .- But, harkee, a Word in your Ear; I would advise you before you proceed too far, to take care who

is to be your Paymaster.'

' Paymaster!' said the Doctor, staring, 'why, 'I've a Gentleman under my Hands, have I

" not ?"

' I imagined fo as well as you,' faid the Landlady; 'but as my first Husband used to fay, every Thing is not what it looks to be. He is an arrant Scrub, Lassure you. However, take no Notice that I mentioned any thing to you of 6 the

the Matter; but I think People in Business oft always to let one another know such Things.

And have I suffered such a Fellow as this,' cries the Doctor, in a Passion, 'to instruct me?' Shall I hear my Practice insulted by one who will not pay me! I am glad I have made this Discovery in Time. I will see now whether he will be blooded or no.' He then immediately went up Stairs, and slinging open the Door of the Chamber with much Violence, awaked poor Jones from a very sound Nap, into which he was fallen, and what was still worse, from a delicious Dream concerning Sophia.

Will you be blooded or no?' cries the Doctor, in a Rage. 'I have told you my Resolution already,' answered Jones, 'and I wish with all my Heart you had taken my Answer: For you have awaked me out of the sweetest Sleep which

" I ever had in my Life."

'Ay, ay,' cries the Doctor, ' many a Man hath dosed away his Life. Sleep is not always good, no more than Food; but remember I demand of you for the last Time, will you be blooded?' I answer you for the last Time,' faid Jones, 'I will not.' 'Then I wash my ' Hands of you,' cries the Doctor; and I defire ' you to pay me for the Trouble I have had already. Two Journeys at 5 s. each, two Dressings at 5 s. more, and half a Crown for Phlebotomy.' 'I hope,' faid Jones, 'you don't intend to leave me in this Condition.' In-' deed but I shall,' faid the other. 'Then,' faid Jones, 'you have used me rascally, and I will onot pay you a Farthing.' Very well,' cries the Doctor, ' the first Loss is the best. What a Pox did my Landlady mean by fending for me Ch. 4: a FOUNDLING. 189 to fuch Vagabonds?' At which Words he flung out of the Room, and his Patient turning himself about soon recovered his Sleep; but his Dream was unfortunately gone.

chilingham aven C H A P. IV. uge that him

In which is introduced one of the pleasantest Barbers that was ever recorded in History, the Barber of Bagdad, or he in Don Quixote not excepted.

HE Clock had now struck Five, when Jones awaked from a Nap of seven Hours, so much refreshed, and in such perfect Health and Spirits, that he resolved to get up and dress himself: for which Purpose he unlocked his Portmanteau, and took out clean Linen, and a Suit of Cloaths; but first he slipt on a Frock, and went down into the Kitchin to bespeak something that might pacify certain Tumults he found rising within his Stomach.

Meeting the Landlady he accossed her with great Civility, and asked what he could have

for Dinner.' For Dinner!' fays she, it is an odd Time a Day to think about Dinner.

'There is nothing drest in the House, and the Fire is almost out.' Well but,' fays he, 'I

must have fomething to eat, and it is almost

indifferent to me what: For to tell you the Truth, I was never more hungry in my Life.

Then, fays the, I believe there is a Piece of

cold Buttock and Carrot, which will fit you.'—
 Nothing better,' answered Jones, 'but I should

be obliged to you, if you would let it be fried.'
To which the Landlady confented, and faid smiling, the was glad to see him so well recovered:
For

For the Sweetness of our Heroe's Temper was almost irresistible; besides, she was really no illhumoured Woman at the Bottom; but the loved Money fo much, that fhe hated every Thing which had the Semblance of Poverty.

Jones now returned in order to drefs himfelf, while his Dinner was preparing, and was, according to his Orders, attended by the Barber.

This Barber who went by the Name of little Benjamin, was a Fellow of great Oddity and Humour, which had frequently led him into small Inconveniencies, fuch as Slaps in the Face, Kicks in the Breech, broken Bones, &c. For every one doth not understand a Jest; and those who do, are often displeased with being themselves the Subjects of it. This Vice was, however, incurable in him; and though he had often fmarted for it, yet if ever he conceived a Joke, he was certain to be delivered of it, without the least Respect of Persons, Time or Place.

He had a great many other Particularities in his Character, which I shall not mention, as the Reader will himfelf very eafily perceive them, on his farther Acquaintance with this extroardinary,

Perfon.

fones being impatient to be dreft, for a Reason which may eafily be imagined, thought the Shaver was very tedious in preparing his Suds, and begged him to make haste; to which the other anfwered, with much Gravity: For he never difcomposed his Muscles on any Account. 'Festina · lenté is a Proverb which I learnt long before I ever touched a Razor,' 'I find, Friend, you are a Scholar,' replied Jones. ' A poor one,' faid the Barber, ' non omnia possumus omnes. Again!' faid Jones; 'I fancy you are good at 6 capping

capping Verses.' Excuse me, Sir,' faid the Barber, 'non tanto me dignor bonore.' And then proceeding to his Operation, 'Sir,' faid he, fince I have dealt in Suds, I could never discover more than two Reasons for shaving, the one is to get a Beard, and the other to get rid of one. L' I conjecture, Sir, it may not be long fince you shaved, from the former of these Motives: Upon my Word you have had good Success; for one may fay of your Beard, that it is Tondenti gravior.' 'I conjecture, fays Jones, that thou art a very comical Fellow.' You miftake me widely, Sir,' faid the Barber, 'I am too much addicted to the Study of Philosophy, · Hincilla Lacryma, Sir, that's my Misfortune. ' Too much Learning hath been my Ruin.' 'Indeed,' fays Jones, 'I confess, Friend, you have more Learning than generally belongs to your Trade; but I can't fee how it can have injured you.' 'Alas, Sir, answered the Shaver, my Father difinherited me for it. He was a Dancing-Master; and because I could read, before I could dance, he took an Aversion to me, and left every Farthing among his other · Children .- Will you please to have your · Temples-Ola! I alk your Pardon, I fancy there is Hiatus in manuscriptis. I heard you was going to the Wars: but I find it was a Mistake.' 'Why do you conclude so?' fays Fones. 'Sure, Sir,' answered the Barber, 'you are too wife a Man to carry a broken Head thither; for that would be carrying Coals to Newcastle.

Upon my Word,' cries Jones, 'thou art a very odd Fellow, and I like thy Humour extremely; I shall be very glad if thou wilt come

192 The HISTORY of Book VIII.

to me after Dinner, and drink a Glass with me; I long to be better acquainted with thee. O dear Sir, faid the Barber, I can do you twenty Times as great a Favour, if you will accept of it., What is that, my Friend cries Jones. 'Why I will drink a Bottle with you, if you please; For I dearly love Good-nature; and as you have found me out to be a comical Fellow, fo I have no Skill in Physiognomy, if vou are not one of the best-natured Gentlemen ' in the Universe.' Jones now walked down Stairs neatly dreft, and perhaps the fair Adonis was not a lovelier Figure; and yet he had no Charms for my Landlady: For as that good Woman did not refemble Venus at all in her Person. fo neither did she in her Taste. Happy had it been for Nanny the Chambermaid, if the had feen with the Eyes of her Miftress; for that poor Girl fell fo violently in love with Jones in five Minutes, that her Passion afterwards cost her many a Sigh. This Nancy was extremely pretty, and altogether as cov; for the had refused a Drawer, and one or two young Farmers in the Neigbourhood, but the bright Eyes of our Heroe thawed all her Ice in a Moment.

When Jones returned to the Kitchin, his Cloth was not yetlaid; nor indeed was there any Occasion it should, his Dinner remaining in Statu quo, as did the Fire which was to dress it. This Disappointment might have put many a philosophical Temper into a Passion; but it had no such Effect on Jones. He only gave the Landlady a gentle Rebuke, saying, 'Since it was so difficult to get it heated, he would eat the Beef cold.' But now the good Woman, whether moved by Compassion, or by Shame, or by whatever other

Motive, I cannot tell, first gave her Servants a round Scold for disobeying the Orders which she had never given, and then bidding the Drawer lay a Napkin in the Sun, she set about the Matter in good earnest, and soon accomplished it.

This Sun, into which Jones was now conducted, was truly named as Lucus a non lucendo; for it was an Apartment into which the Sun had scarce ever looked. It was indeed the worst Room in the House; and happy was it for Jones that it was so. However, he was now too hungry to find any Fault; but having once satisfied his Appetite, he ordered the Drawer to carry a Bottle of Wine into a better Room, and expressed some Resentment at having been shewn into a Dun-

geon.

The Drawer having obeyed his Commands, he was, after some Time, attended by the Barber; who would not indeed have fuffered him to wait so long for his Company, had he not been listening in the Kitchin to the Landlady, who was entertaining a Circle that she had gathered round her with the History of poor Jones, Part of which she had extracted from his own Lips, and the other Part was her own ingenuous Composition; ' for she said he was a poor Parish Boy, taken into the House of Squire Allworthy, where he was bred up as an Apprentice, and now turned out of Doors for his Misdeeds, particularly for making Love to his young Mistress, and probably for robbing the House; for how else should he come by the little Money he hath ; And this,' fays she, 'is your Gentleman, for-' footh.' 'A Servant of Squire Allworthy!' fays the Barber, 'what's his Name? - 'Why he told " me his Name was Jones, fays she, perhaps Vol. II.

The HISTORY of Book VIII.

194 he goes by a wrong Name. Nay, and he told me too, that the Squire had maintained him as his own Son, that he had quarrelled with him now.' And if his Name be Jones, he told you the Truth,' faid the Barber; ' for I have Relations who live in that Country, nay, and fome People fay he is his Son.' Why doth he not go by the Name of his Father?' 'I can't tell that,' faid the Barber, ' many People's Sons don't go by the Name of their Father.' Nay, faid the Landlady, 'if I thought he was a Gentleman's Son, thof he was a Bye Blow, I 4 should behave to him in anothergues Manner; for many of these Bye Blows come to be great Men, and, as my poor first Husband used to 6 fay, Never affront any Customer that's a Gen-

of mad borokal C H A P. nad he not been

A Dialogue between Mr. Jones and the Barber. but elle that the had

HIS Conversation passed partly while Fones was at Dinner in his Dungeon, and partly while he was expecting the Barber in the Parlour. And, as foon as it was ended, Mr. Benjamin, as we have faid, attended him, and was very kindly defired to fit down. Jones then filling out a Glass of Wine, drank his Health by the Appellation of Doctiffine Tonforum. Ago tibi Gratias, Domine, faid the Barber; and then looking very fleadfastly at Jones, he faid, with great Gravity, and with a feeming Surprize, as if he had recollected a Face he had feen before, 'Sir, may I crave the Favour to know if your Name is not Jones?' To which the other answered, that it was. ' Prob

· Deûm atque Hominum Fidem, fays the Barber, how strangely Things come to pass! Mr. Jones I am your most obedient Servant. I find you do not know me, which indeed is no Wonder, fince you never faw me but once, and then you was very young. Pray, Sir, how doth the good Squire Allworthy? How doth Ille optimus omnium Patronus?' 'I find,' faid fones, 'you do indeed know me; but I have not the like · Happiness of recollecting you,' - I do not won-" der at that,' cries Benjamin; 'but I am surprized 4 I did not know you fooner, for you are not in 6 the least altered. And pray, Sir, may I without Offence enquire whither you are travelling ' this Way? Fill the Glass, Mr. Barber,' faid Jones, ' and ask no more Questions.' ' Nay, Sir,' answered Benjamin, ' I would not be froublesome; and I hope you don't think me a Man of an impertinent Curiofity, for that is a Vice which no-body can lay to my Charge; but I ask Pardon, for when a Gentleman of your Figure travels without his Servants, we may suppose him to be, as we say, in Casu incognito, and perhaps I ought not to have men-'tioned your Name.' 'I own, fays Jones, 'I 6 did not expect to have been fo well known in this Country as I find I am, yet, for particular Reasons, I shall be obliged to you if you will onot mention my Name to any other Person, ' till I am gone from hence.' ' Pauc Verba,' answered the Barber; 'and I wish no other here knew you but myfelf; for some People have 'Tongues; but I promise you I can keep a Secret. My Enemies will allow me that Virtue.' And yet that is not the Characteristic of your Profession, Mr. Barber, answered fones, 'Alas, Sir,

The HISTORY of Book VIII. 196 Sir,' replied Benjamin, ' Non si male nunc & olim fic erit. I was not born nor bed a Barber, I affure you. I have fpent most of my · Time among Gentlemen, and tho' I fay it, I understand something of Gentility. And if you 6 had thought me as worthy of your Confidence as you have fome other People, I should have fhewn you I could have kept a Secret better. I 6 should not have degraded your Name in a pub-6 lic Kitchin; for indeed, Sir, some People have onot used you well; for besides making a public · Proclamation of what you told them of a Quarrel between yourfelf and Squire Allworthy, they added Lies of their own, Things which I knew to be Lies.' You furprize me greatly,' cries Jones. 'Upon my Word Sir,' answered Benjamin, 'I tell the Truth, and I need not tell vou my Landlady was the Person. I am sure

it moved me to hear the Story, and I hope it is all false; for I have a great Respect for you, I do affure you I have, and have had, ever fince

the Good-nature you shewed to Black George, which was talked of all over the Country, and

I received more than one Letter about it. Indeed it made you beloved by every body. You

will pardon me, therefore; for it was real Concern at what I heard made me ask many Questi-

ons; for I have no impertinent Curiofity about me; but I love Good-nature, and thence be-

came Amoris abundantia erga Te.'

Every Profession of Friendship easily gains Credit with the Miserable; it is no wonder, therefore, if Fones, who, befides his being miferable, was extremely open-hearted, very readily believed all the Professions of Benjamin, and received him into his Bosom. The Scraps of Latin, some of which

which Benjamin applied properly enough, tho' it did not favour of profound Literature, feemed yet to indicate fomething superior to a common Barber, and so indeed did his whole Behaviour. Fones therefore believed the Truth of what he had said, as to his Original and Education, and at length, after much Entreaty, he said, 'Since you 'have heard, my Friend, so much of my Affairs, and seem so destrous to know the Truth, if you will have Patience to hear it, I will inform you of the whole.' Patience,' cries Benjamin, that I will, if the Chapter was never so long, and I am very much obliged to you for the Honour you do me.'

Jones now began, and related the whole History, forgetting only a Circumstance or two, namely, every Thing which passed on that Day in which he had fought with Thwackum, and ended with his Resolution to go to Sea, till the Rebellion in the Northhad made him change his Purpose, and had brought him to the Place where he

then was.

Little Benjamin, who had been all Attention, never once interrupted the Narrative; but when it was ended, he could not help observing, that there must be furely something more invented by his Enemies, and told Mr. Allworthy against him, or so good a Man would never have dismissed one he had loved so tenderly, in such a Manner. To which Jones answered, 'He doubted not but such 'villanous Arts had been made use of to destroy 'him.'

And furely it was fearce possible for any one to have avoided making the same Remark with the Barber; who had not, indeed, heard from Jones, one single Circumstance upon which he was condensed K 3 demned;

demned; for his Actions were not now placed in those injurious Lights, in which they had been misrepresented to Allworthy: Nor could he mention those many false Accusations which had been from time to time preferred against him to Allworthy; for with none of these he was himself acquainted. He had likewise, as we have observed, omitted many material Facts in his prefent Relation. Upon the whole, indeed, every thing now appeared in such favourable Colours to Fones, that Malice itself would have found it no

easy Matter to fix any Blame upon him.

Not that Jones defired to conceal or to difguife the Truth; nay, he would have been more unwilling to have fuffered any Cenfure to fall on Nir. Advoorthy for punishing him, than on his own Actions for deferving it, but, in Reality, fo it happened, and fo it always will happen: For let a Man be never fo honest, the Account of his own Conduct will, in Spite of himself, be fo very favourable, that his Vices will come purified through his Lips, and, like foul Liquors well strained, will leave all their Foulness behind. For tho' the Facts themselves may appear, yet so different will be the Motives, Circumstances, and Confequences, when a Man tells his own Story, and when his Enemy tells it, that we scarce can recognize the Facts to be one and the fame.

Tho' the Barber had drank down this Story with greedy Ears, he was not yet fatisfied. There was a Circumstance behind, which his Curiosity, cold as it was, most eagerly longed for. Jones had mentioned the Fact of his Amour, and of his being the Rival of Bliss, but had cautiously concealed the Name of the young Lady. The

Barber

Barber therefore, after some Hesitation, and many Hums and Ha's, at last begged Leave to crave the Name of the Lady, who appeared to be the principal Cause of all this Mischief. Fones paufed a Moment, and then faid, 'Since I have trusted you with so much, and fince, I am afraid, her Name is become too publick already on this Occasion, I will not conceal it from vou. Her Name is Sophia Western.

Prob Deum atque Hominum Fidem ! Squire Western hath a Daughter grown a Woman!' Ay, and fuch a Woman, cries Jones, that the World cannot match. No Eye ever faw any thing so beautiful; but that is her least Excellence. Such Sense! fuch Goodness! O I could praise her for ever, and yet should omit half her Vir-' tues.' Mr. Western a Daughter grown up!' cries the Barber, 'I remember the Father a Boy;

well, Tempus edax Rerum.' The Wine being now at an End, the Barber pressed very eagerly to be his Bottle; but 'Jones absolutely refused, saying, 'He had already drank more than he ought; and that he now chose to retire to his Room, where he wished he could procure himself a Book.' A Book!' cries Benjamin, what Book would you have? Latin or English? I have some curious Books in both Languages. Such as Erafmi Colloquia, Ovid de · Tristibus, Gradus ad Parnassum; and in Eng-! lift I have feveral of the best Books, tho' fome f of them are a little torn; but I have a great · Part of Stowe's Chronicle; the fixth Volume of · Pope's Homer; the third Volume of the Spectator; the fecond Volume of Echard's Roman 6 History; the Craftsman; Robinson Crusoe: K 4 odlos Thomas

Thomas a Kempis, and two Volumes of Tom

'Those last,' cries Jones, 'are Books I never' faw, so if you please to lend me one of those 'Volumes.' The Barber assured him he would be highly entertained; for he looked upon the Author to have been one of the greatest Wits that ever the Nation produced. He then stepp'd to his House, which was hard by, and immediately returned; after which, the Barber having received very strict Injunctions of Secrecy from Jones, and having sworn inviolably to maintain it, they separated; the Barber went home, and Jones retired to his Chamber.

CHAP. VI. 1949 101 194

In which more of the Talents of Mr. Benjamin will appear, as well as who this extraordinary Person was.

In the Morning Jones grew a little uneafy at the Defertion of his Surgeon, as he apprehended fome Inconvenience, or even Danger, might attend the not dreffing his Wound; he enquired therefore of the Drawer what other Surgeons were to be met with in that Neighbourhood. The Drawer told him there was one not far off; but he had known him often refuse to be concerned after another had been fent for before him; 'but, Sir,' fays he, 'if you will take my Advice, there is not a Man in the Kingdom can do your Business better than the Barber who was with you last Night. We look upon him to be one of the ablest Men at a Cut in all this Neighbourhood. For the' he hath

onot been here above three Months, he hath

done feveral great Cures.'

The Drawer was presently dispatched for little Benjamin, who being acquainted in what Capacity he was wanted, prepared himself accordingly, and attended; but with so different an Air and Aspect from that which he wore when his Bason was under his Arm, that he could scarce be known to be the same Person.

'So, Tonsor,' says Jones, 'I find you have 'more Trades than one; how came you not to inform me of this last Night? A Surgeon,' answered Benjamin, with great Gravity, 'is a Profession, not a Trade. The Reason why I did not acquaint you last Night that I professed this 'Art, was that I then concluded you was under the Hands of another Gentleman, and I never love to interfere with my Brethren in their Bu-

finess. Ars omnibus communis. But now, Sir, if you please, I will inspect your Head, and

when I fee into your Skull, I will give my Opi-

"nion of your Cafe."

Jones had no great Faith in this new Professor; however he suffered him to open the Bandage, and to look at his Wound, which as soon as he had done, Benjamin began to groan and shake his Head violently. Upon which Jones, in a peevish Manner, bid him not play the Fool, but tell him in what Condition he found him. 'Shall I and sher you as a Surgeon, or a Friend?' said Benjamin. 'As a Friend, and seriously,' said Jones, Why then upon my Soul,' cries Benjamin, it would require a great deal of Art to keep you

from being well after a very few Dreffings; and if you will fuffer me to apply fome Salve of

6 mine, I will answer for the Success." Jones K 5 gave

gave his Confent, and the Plaister was applied accordingly.

'There, Sir,' cries Benjamimin, 'now I will, 'if you please, resume my former Self; but a Man is obliged to keep up some Dignity in his Countenance whilst he is performing these Operations, or the World will not submit to be handled by him. You can't imagine, Sir, of how much Consequence a grave Aspect is to a grave Character. A Barber may make you laugh, but a Surgeon ought rather to make you cry.'

Mr. Barber, or Mr. Surgeon, or Mr. Barber-" Surgeon,' faid Jones .- " O dear Sir, answered Benjamin, interrupting him, 'Infandum, Regina, jubes renovare Dolorem. You recal to my Mind that cruel Separation of the united Fraternities, fo much to the Prejudice of both Bodies, as all Separations must be, according to the old Adage, Vis unita fortior; which to be fure there are not wanting fome of one or of the 6 other Fraternity who are able to construe. What a Blow was this to me who unite both in my own Person.'- Well, by whatever " Name you please to be called,' continued Jones, you certainly are one of the oddest, most co-' mical Fellows I ever met with, and must have ' fomething very furprizing in your Story, which ' you must confess I have a Right to hear.' 'I ' do confess it,' answered Benjamin, 'and will very readily acquaint you with it, when you have sufficient Leisure; for I promise you it will require a good deal of Time.' Jones told him, He could never be more at Leifure than at prefent. 'Well then,' faid Benjamin, 'I will obey you; but first I will fasten the Door, that none

may interrupt us.' He did fo, and then advancing with a folemn Air to Jones, faid; 'I must begin by telling you, Sir, that you yourfelf have been the greatest Enemy I ever had. Jones was a little startled at this sudden Declaration. 'I your Enemy, Sir!' fays he, with much Amazement, and some Sternness in his Look, 'Nay, be not angry,' faid Benjamin, for I promise you I am not. You are persectly innocent of having intended me any Wrong; for you was then an Infant; but I shall, I believe, unriddle all this the Moment I mention my Name. Did you never hear, Sir, of one · Partridge, who had the Honour of being reputed your Father, and the Misfortune of being ruined by that Honour?' 'I have indeed heard of that Partridge,' fays Jones, 'and have always believed myfelf to be his Son. Well, Sir,' answered Benjamin, 'I am that Partridge; but I here absolve you from all filial Duty; for I do affure you, you are no Son of mine. 6 How!' replied Jones, 6 and is it possible that a false Suspicion should have drawn all the ill Consequences upon you, with which I am too well acquainted?' 'It is possible,' cries Ben-' jamin, ' for it is fo; but tho' it is natural enough for Men to hate even the innocent Causes of their Sufferings, yet I am of a different Temper. I have loved you ever fince I heard of your Behaviour to Black George, as I told you; and I am convinced, from this extraordinary Meeting, that you are born to 6 make me Amends for all I have fuffered on that Account. Besides, I dreamt, the Night before I faw you, that I stumbled over a Stool without hurting myself; which plainly shewed mesome-· thing

thing good was towards me; and last Night I dreamt again, that I rode behind you on a milkwhite Mare, which is a very excellent Dream, and betokens much good Fortune, which I am resolved to pursue, unless you have the Cruelty

to deny me.'

'I should be very glad, Mr. Partridge.' anfwered Jones, 'to have it in my Power to make you Amends for your Sufferings on my Account, tho' at present I see no Likelihood of it; however, I affure you I will deny you nothing

which is in my Power to grant.

'It is in your Power fure enough,' replied Benjamin; 'for I defire nothing more than Leave to attend you in this Expedition. Nay, I have fo entirely fet my Heart upon it, that if you fhould refuse me, you will kill both a Barber

and a Surgeon in one Breath.'

Jones answered similing, That he should be very forry to be the Occasion of so much Mischief to the Public. He then advanced many prudential Reasons, in order to diffuade Benjamin (whom we shall hereafter call Pariridge) from his Purpose; but all were in vain. Partridge relied ftrongly on his Dream of the milk-white Mare. 'Besides, Sir,' says he, 'I promise you, · I have as good an Inclination to the Cause as any Man can possibly have; and go I will, whether you admit me to go in your Company or not.

Jones, who was as much pleased with Partridge, as Partridge could be with him, and who had not confulted his own Inclination, but the Good of the other in defiring him to flay behind, when he found his Friend fo refolute, at last gave his Confent; but then recollecting himself, he

faid, 'Perhaps, Mr. Partridge, you think I shall 'be able to support you, but I really am not;' and then taking out his Purse, he told out nine Guineas, which he declared were his whole Fortune.

Partridge answered, 'That his Dependance was only on his future Favour: For he was thoroughly convinced he would shortly have enough in his Power. At present, Sir,' said he, 'I believe I am rather the richer Man of the two; but all I have is at your Service, and at your Disposal. I insist upon your taking the whole, and I beg only to attend you in the Quality of your Servant, Nil desperandum est Teucro duce auspice Teucro; but to this generous Proposal concerning the Money, Jones would by no means submit.

It was resolved to set out the next Morning, when a Difficulty arose concerning the Baggage; for the Portmanteau of Mr. Jones was too large

to be carried without a Horse.

'If I may prefume to give my Advice,' fays Partridge, 'this Portmanteau, with every Thing in it, except a few Shirts, should be left behind. 'Those I shall be easily able to carry for you,

and the rest of your Clothes will remain very

fafely locked up in my House.'

This Method was no fooner proposed than agreed to, and then the Barber departed, in order to prepare every thing for his intended Expedition.

unocent, could not conceive that any other

CHAP.

+ Inon

C H A P. VII. moles media bas

Containing better Reasons, than any which have yet appeared for the Conduct of Partridge; an Apology for the Weakness of Jones; and some farther Anecdotes concerning my Landlady.

HOUGH Partridge was one of the most fuperstitious of Men, he would hardly, perhaps, have defired to accompany Jones on his Expedition merely from the Omens of the Jointstool, and white Mare, if his Prospect had been no better than to have shared the Plunder gained in the Field of Battle. In Fact, when Partridge came to ruminate on the Relation he had heard from Jones, he could not reconcile to himself, that Mr. Allworthy should turn his Son (for so he most firmly believed him to be) out of Doors, for any Reason which he had heard affigued. He concluded therefore, that the whole was a Fiction, and that Jones, of whom he had often from his Correspondents heard the wildest Character, had in reality run away from his Father. It came into his Head, therefore, that if he could prevail with the young Gentleman to return back to his Father, he should by that Means render a Service to Allworthy, which would obliterate all his former Anger; nay, indeed, he conceived that very Anger was counterfeited, and that Allworthy had facrificed him to his own Reputation. And this Suspicion, indeed, he well accounted for, from the tender Behaviour of that excellent Man to the Foundling Child; from his great Severity to Partridge, who knowing himself to be innocent, could not conceive that any other should

should think him guilty; lastly, from the Allowance which he had privately received long after the Annuity had been publickly taken from him; and which he looked upon as a kind of Smartmoney, or rather by way of Atonement for Injustice: For it is very uncommon, I believe, for Men to ascribe the Benefactions they receive to pure Charity, when they can possibly impute them to any other Motive. If he could by any Means, therefore, persuade the young Gentleman to return home, he doubted not but that he should again be received into the Favour of Allworthy, and well rewarded for his Pains; nay, and should be again restored to his native Country; a Restoration which Ulysses himself never wished more

heartily than poor Partridge.

As for Jones, he was well fatisfied with the Truth of what the other had afferted, and believed that Partridge had no other Inducements but Love to him, and Zeal for the Caufe. A blameable Want of Caution and Diffidence in the Veracity of others, in which he was highly worthy of Cenfure. To fay the Truth, there are but two Ways by which Men become poffeffed of this excellent Quality. The one is from long Experience, and the other is from Nature; which last, I presume, is often meant by Genius, or great natural Parts; and it is infinitely the better of the two, not only as we are Masters of it much earlier in Life, but as it is much more infallible and conclusive: For a Man who hath been imposed on by ever so many, may still hope to find others more honest; whereas he who receives certain necessary Admonitions from within, that this is impossible, must have very little Understanding indeed, if he ever renders himself liable to be once deceived. As Jones had not this Gift from Nature, he was too young to have gained it by Experience; for at the diffident Wisdom which is to be acquired this Way, we feldom arrive till very late in Life; which is perhaps the Reason why some old Men are apt to despise the Understandings of all those who are a little

younger than themselves.

Jones spent most Part of the Day in the Company of a new Acquaintance. This was no other than the Landlord of the House, or rather the Husband of the Landlady. He had but lately made his Descent down Stairs, after a long Fit of the Gout, in which Diftemper he was generally confined to his Room during one half of the Year; and during the rest, he walked about the House, smoaked his Pipe, and drank his Bottle with his Friends, without concerning himfelf in the least with any Kind of Business. He had been bred, as they call it, a Gentleman, that is, bred up to do nothing, and had spent a very fmall Fortune, which he inherited from an industrious Farmer his Uncle, in Hunting, Horseracing, and Cock-fighting, and had been married by my Landlady for certain Purposes, which he had long fince defifted from answering: For which she hated him heartily But as he was a furly Kind of Fellow, fo she contented herself with frequently upbraiding him by difadvantageous Comparisons with her first Husband, whose Praise the had eternally in her Mouth; and as the was for the most part Mistress of the Profit, so the was fatisfied to take upon herfelf the Care and Government of the Familiy, and after a long fuccessless Struggle, to suffer her Husband to be Master of himself.

In the Evening, when Jones retired to his Room, a small Dispute arose between this fond Couple concerning him, "What," fays the Wife, you have been tippling with the Gentleman! I ' fee,' 'Yes,' answered the Husband, 'we have cracked a Bottle together, and a very Gentleman-like Man he is, and hath a very pretty Notion of Horse-flesh, Indeed he is young, and hath not feen much of the World : For I believe he hath been at very few Horse-races." Oho! he is one of your Order, is he?' replies the Landlady; ' he must be a Gentleman to be fure, if he is a Horse-racer. The Devil fetch fuch Gentry; I am fure I wish I had never feen any of them. I have Reason to love Horseracers truly.' That you have,' fays the Hufband; 'for I was one, you know.' 'Yes,' anfwered fhe, 'you are a pure one indeed. As my first Husband used to say, I may put all the good I have ever got by you in my Eyes, and fee never the worse.' D-n you first Husband,' cries he .- 'Don't d-n a better Man than yourfelf,' answered the Wife; if he had been ' alive, you durst not have done it.' Then you 'think,' fays he, 'I have not so much Courage as yourfelf: For you have d-n'd him often in ' my Hearing.' 'If I did;' fays she, 'I have repented of it many's the good Time and oft. And if he was fo good to forgive me a Word fpoken in Hafte, or fo, it doth not become fuch a one as you to twitter me. He was a Hufband to me, he was; and if ever I did make use of an ill Word or so in a Passion, I never called him Rafcal; I should have told a Lie, if 1 had called him Rascal.' Much more she said, but not in his Hearing: For having lighted his Pipe.

Pipe, he staggered off as fast as he could. We shall therefore transcribe no more of her Speech, as it approached still nearer and nearer to a Subject too indelicate to find any Place in this

History.

Early in the Morning Partridge appeared at the Bedfide of Jones, ready equipped for the Journey, with his Knapfack at his Back. This was his own Workmanship; for besides his other Trades, he was no indifferent Taylor. He had already put up his whole Stock of Linen in it, consisting of four Shirts, to which he now added eight for Mr. Jones; and then packing up the Portmanteau, he was departing with it towards his own House, but was stopt in his Way by the Landlady, who refused to suffer any Removals

till after the Payment of the Reckoning.

The Landlady was, as we have faid, absolute Governess in these Regions; it was therefore necessary to comply with her Rules; so the Bill was presently writ out, which amounted to a much larger Sum than might have been expected, from the Entertainment which Jones had met with. But here we are obliged to disclose some Maxims, which Publicans hold to be the grand Mysteries of their Trade. The first is, if they have any Thing good in their House (which indeed very feldom happens) to produce it only to Perfons who travel with great Equipages. 2dly, To charge the same for the very worst Provisions, as if they were the best. And, lastly, if any of their Guests call but for little, to make them pay a double Price for every Thing they have; fo that the Amount by the Head may be much the

self bord if gring: For having I bred this

The Bill being made and discharged, Jones set forward with Partridge, carrying his Knapfack; nor did the Landlady condescend to wish him a good Journey: for this was, it seems, an Inn frequented by People of Fashion; and I know not whence it is, but all those who get their Livelihood by People of Fashion, contract as much Insolence to the rest of Mankind, as if they really belonged to that Rank themselves.

CHAP. VIII.

Jones arrives at Gloucester, and goes to the Bell; the Character of that House, and of a Pettyfogger, which he there meets with.

R. Jones, and Partridge, or Little Benjamin, (which Epithet of Little was perhaps given him ironically, he being in reality near fix Feet high) having left their last Quarters in the Manner before described, travelled on to Gloucester, without meeting any Adventure

worth relating.

Being arrived here, they chose for their House of Entertainment the Sign of the Bell, an excellent House indeed, and which I do most seriously recommend to every Reader who shall visit this ancient City. The Master of it is Brother to the great Preacher Whitesield; but is absolutely untainted with the pernicious Principles of Methodism, or of any other heretical Sect. He is indeed a very honest plain Man, and, in my Opinion, not likely to create any Disturbance either in Church or State. His Wife hath, I believe, had much Pretension to Beauty, and is still a very sine Woman, Her Person and Deportment might

have made a shining Figure in the politest Assemblies; but tho' fhe must be conscious of this, and many other Perfections, the feems perfectly contented with, and refigned to that State of Life to which she is called; and this Refignation is entirely owing to the Prudence and Wisdom of her Temper: For she is at present as free from any methodiffical Notions as her Hufband. I fav at present: For she freely confesses that her Brother's Documents made at first some Impression upon her, and that she had put herself to the Expence of a long Hood, in order to attend the extraordinary Emotions of the Spirit; but having found, during an Experiment of three Weeks, no Emotions, she fays, worth a Farthing, she very wifely laid by her Hood, and abandoned the Sect. To be concife, the is a very friendly, good-natured Woman; and fo industrious to oblige, that the Guests must be of a very morose Disposition who are not extremely well satisfied in her House.

Mrs. Whitefield happened to be in the Yard when Jones and his Attendant marched in. Her Sagacity foon discovered in the Air of our Heroe something which distinguished him from the Vulgar. She ordered her Servants, therefore, immediately to shew him into a Room, and presently afterwards invited him to Dinner with herself; which Invitation he very thankfully accepted: For indeed much less agreeable Company than that of Mrs. Whitefield, and a much worse Entertainment than she had provided, would have been welcome, after so long fasting,

and fo long a Walk.

Belides

Besides Mr. Jones and the good Governess of the Mansion, there fat down at Table an Attorney of Salisbury, indeed the very same who had brought the News of Mrs. Blifil's Death to Mr. Allworthy, and whose Name, which, I think, we did not before mention, was Dowling: There was likewise present another Person, who sliled himself a Lawyer, and who lived somewhere near Linlinch in Somersetsbire. This Fellow, I fav, stiled himself a Lawyer, but was indeed a most vile Petty-fogger, without Sense or Knowledge of any Kind; one of those who may be termed Train-bearers to the Law; a Sort of Supernumeraries in the Profession, who are the Hackneys of Attornies, and will ride more Miles for half a Crown than a Post-boy.

During the Time of Dinner, the Somerfeishire Lawyer recollected the Face of Jones, which he had feen at Mr. Allworthy's: For he had often visited in that Gentleman's Kitchin. He therefore took Occasion to enquire after the good Family there, with that Familiarity which would have become an intimate Friend or Acquaintance of Mr. Allworthy; and indeed he did all in his Power to infinuate himfelf to be fuch, though he had never had the Honour of speaking to any Person in that Family higher than the Butler. Jones answered all his Questions with much Civility, though he never remembered to have feen the Petty-fogger before, and though he concluded from the outward Appearance and Behaviour of the Man, that he usurped a Freedom with his Betters, to which he was by no means intitled.

As the Conversation of Fellows of this Kind, is of all others the most detestable to Men of any Sense, the Cloth was no sooner removed than Mr.

Mr. Jones withdrew, and a little barbarously left poor Mrs. Whitesfield to do a Pennance, which I have often heard Mr. Timothy Harris, and other Publicans of good Taste, lament, as the severest Lot annexed to their Calling, namely, that of being obliged to keep Company with their Guests.

Jones had no fooner quitted the Room, than the Petty-fogger, in a whispering Tone, asked Mrs. Whitefield, ' if the knew who that fine Spark was?' She answered, ' she had never ' feen the Gentleman before.' 'The Gentleman, indeed!' replied the Petty-fogger; a opretty Gentleman truly! Why, he's the Bastard of a Fellow who was hanged for Horfe-stealing. · He was dropt at Squire Allworthy's Door, where one of the Servants found him in a Box fo full of Rain-water, that he would certainly have been drowned, had he not been referved for another Fate.' Ay, ay, you need not men-' tion it, I protest; we understand what that Fate is very well,' cries Dowling, with a most facetious Grin. 6 Well,' continued the other, the Squire ordered him to be taken in: For he 6 is a timbersome Man every Body knows, and was afraid of drawing himself into a Scrape: and there the Bastard was bred up, and fed and cloathified all to the World like any Gentleman; and there he got one of the Servant ' Maids with Child, and perfuaded her to fwear it to the Squire himself; and afterwards he broke the Arm of one Mr. Thwackum a Clergyman, only because he reprimanded him for following Whores; and afterwards he fnapt a 6 Piftol at Mr. Blifil behind his Back; and once when Squire Allworthy was fick, he got a Drum, s and

and beat it all over the House, to prevent him from sleeping: And twenty other Pranks he

from fleeping: And twenty other Pranks he hath played; for all which, about four or five

Days ago, just before I left the Country, the Squire strip'd him stark naked, and turned him

out of Doors. " District of St. Salve

And very justly too, I protest, cries Dowling; I would turn my own Son out of Doors, if he was guilty of half as much. And pray what is the Name of this pretty Gentleman?

The Name o'un!' answered Petty-fogger,

why, he is called Thomas Jones.'

fones!' answered Dowling, a little eagerly, what, Mr. Jones that lived at Mr. Allworthy's!

was that the Gentleman that dined with us?

'The very fame,' faid the other. 'I have heard of the Gentleman,' cries Dowling, 'often; but

of the Gentleman, cries Dowling, onen; but I never heard any ill Character of him. And

I never heard any ill Character of him. And I am fure,' fays Mrs. Whitefield, ' if half what

this Gentleman hath faid be true, Mr. Jones

hath the most deceitful Countenance I ever

faw; for fure his Looks promise something very different; and I must say, for the little I

have feen of hm, he is as civil a well-bred Man

as you would wish to converse with.'

Pettyfogger calling to mind that he had not been fworn, as he ufually was, before he gave his Evidence, now bound what he had declared with fo many Oaths and Imprecations, that the Landlady's Ears were shocked, and she put a Stop to his fwearing, by affuring him of her Belief. Upon which he faid, 'I hope, Madam, you imagine I 'would scorn to tell such Things of any Man, 'unless I knew them to be true. What Interest

have I in taking away the Reputation of a Man

who never injured me? I promise you every
Syl-

Syllable of what I have faid is Fact, and the

whole Country knows it.

As Mrs. Whitefield had no Reason to suspect that the Pettysogger had any Motive or Temptation to abuse Jones, the Reader cannot blame her for believing what he so considently affirmed with many Oaths. She accordingly gave up her Skill in Physiognomy, and henceforwards conceived so ill an Opinion of her Guest, that she heartily wished him out of her House.

This Dislike was now farther increased by a Report which Mr. Whitesield made from the Kitchin, where Partridge had informed the Company, 'That tho' he carried the Knapsack, and contented himself with staying among Servants, while Tom Jones (as he called him) was regaling in the Parlour, he was not his Servant, but only

a Friend and Companion, and as good a Gentleman as Mr. Yones himself.

Dowling fat all this while filent, biting his Fingers, making Faces, grinning, and looking wonderfully arch; at last he opened his Lips, and protested that the Gentleman looked like another Sort of Man. He then called for his Bill with the utmost Haste, declared he must be at Hereford that Evening, lamented his great Hurry of Business, and wished he could divide himself into twenty Pieces, in order to be at once in twenty Places.

The Pettyfogger now likewise departed, and then Jones desired the Favour of Mrs. Whitesteld's Company to drink Tea with him; but she refused, and with a Manner so different from that with which she had received him at Dinner, that it a little surprized him. And now he soon perceived her Behaviour totally changed; for instead

of

of that natural Affability which we have before celebrated, she wore a constrained Severity on her Countenance, which was so disagreeable to Mr. Jones, that he resolved, however late, to quit the

House that Evening.

He did indeed account fomewhat unfairly for this fuddeu Change; for befides fome hard and unjust Surmises concerning female Fickleness and Mutability, he began to fuspect that he owed this Want of Civility to his Want of Horses; a Sort of Animals which, as they dirty no Sheets, are thought, in Inns, to pay better for their Beds than their Riders, and are therefore confidered as the more desirable Company; but Mrs. Whitefield, to do her Justice, had a much more liberal Way of thinking. She was perfectly well-bred, and could be very civil to a Gentleman, tho' he walked on Foot: In Reality, the looked on our Heroe as a forry Scoundrel, and therefore treated him as fuch, for which not even Jones himfelf, had he known as much as the Reader, could have blamed her; nay, on the contrary, he must have approved her Conduct, and have efteemed her the more for the Difrespect shewn towards him-This is indeed a most aggravating Circumstance which attends depriving Men unjustly of their Reputation; for a Man who is conscious of having an ill Character, cannot justly be angry with those who neglect and flight him; but ought rather to despise such as affect his Converfation, unless where a perfect Intimacy must have convinced them that their Friend's Character hath been fallely and injuriously aspersed.

This was not, however, the Case of Jones; for as he was a perfect Stranger to the Truth, so he was with good Reason offended at the Treat-Vol. II. Length ment he received. He therefore paid his Reckoning and departed, highly against the Will of Mr. Partridge, who having remonstrated much against it to no Purpose, at last condescended to take up his Knapsack, and to attend his Friend.

CHAP. IX.

Containing several Dialogues between Jones and Partridge, concerning Love, Cold, Hunger, and other Matters; with the lucky and narrow Escape of Partridge, as he he was on the very Brink of making a fatal Discovery to his Friend.

HE Shadows began now to descend larger from the high Mountains: The feather'd Creation had betaken themselves to their Rest. Now the highest Order of Mortals were fitting down to their Dinners, and the lowest Order to their Suppers. In a Word, the Clock struck five just as Mr. Fones took his Leave of Gloucefter; an Hour at which (as it was now Midwinter) the dirty Fingers of Night would have drawn her fable Curtain over the Universe, had not the Moon forbid her, who now, with a Face as broad and as red as those of some jolly Mortals, who, like her, turn Night into Day, began to rife from her Bed, where she had slumbred away the Day, in order to fit up all Night. Fones had not travelled far before he paid his Compliments to that beautiful Planet, and turning to his Companion, asked him, If he had ever beheld so delicious an Evening. Partridge making no ready Answer to his Question, he proceeded to comment on the Beauty of the Moon, and repeated fome Passages from Milton, who hath certainly

tainly excelled all other Poets in his Description of the heavenly Luminaries. He then told Partridge the Story from the Spectator, of two Lovers who had agreed to entertain themselves when they were at a great Distance from each other, by repairing, at a certain fixed Hour, to look at the Moon; thus pleasing themselves with the Thought that they were both employed in contemplating the same Object at the same Time. Those Lovers,' added he, 'must have had Souls truly capable of feeling all the Tender-" nefs of the fublimest of all human Passions." Very probably, cries Partridge; but I envy them more, if they had Bodies incapable of feeling Cold; for I am almost frozen to Death, and am very much afraid I shall lose a Piece of my Nose before we get to another House of Entertainment. Nay, truly, we may well exe pect some Judgment should happen to us for our Folly in running away fo by Night from one of the most excellent Inns I ever fet my Foot into. I am fure I never faw more good Things in my Life, and the greatest Lord in the Land cannot live better in his own House than he may there. And to forfake fuch a House, and go a rambling about the Country, the Lord knows whither, per devia rura viarum, I fay nothing for my Part; but fome · People might not have Charity enough to conclude we were in our fober Senses.' 'Fie upon it, Mr. Partridge,' fays Jones, have a better Heart: Confider you are going to face an Enemy; and are you afraid of facing a little Cold? I wish, indeed, we had a Guide to advise which of these Roads we should take.' " May I be so bold,' says Partridge, 'to offer my L 2

Advice: Interdum Stultus opportuna loquitur? Why, which of them,' cries fones, 'would you recommend?' 'Truly neither of them,' anfwered Partridge. The only Road we can be certain of finding, is the Road we came. A good hearty Pace will bring us back to Gloucester in an Hour; but if we go forward, the Lord Harry knows when we shall arrive at any Place; for I see at least fifty Miles before me, and no House in all the Way.' You see, indeed, a very fair Prospect, fays Jones, which receives great additional Beauty from the extreme Lustre of the Moon. However, I will keep the Left-hand Track, as that feems to lead directly to those Hills, which we were informed lie not far from Worcester. And here, if you are inclined to quit me, you may, and return back again; but for my Part, I am refolved to go forward.'

It is unkind in you, Sir, fays Partridge, to suffect me of any such Intention. What I have advised hath been as much on your Account as on my own; but since you are determined to go on, I am as much determined to

follow. I præ, sequar te.

They now travelled some Miles without speaking to each other, during which Suspence of Discourse Jones often sighed, and Benjamin groaned as bitterly, the from a very different Reason. At length Jones made a full Stop, and turning about, cries, 'Who knows, Partridge, but the loveliest Creature in the Universe may have her Eyes now fixed on that very Moon which I beshold at this Instant!' 'Very likely, Sir,' answered Partridge; 'and if my Eyes were fixed on a good Surloin of roast Beef, the Devil might

' might take the Moon and her Horns into the Bargain.' Did ever Tramontane make fuch an Answer?' cries Jones. 'Prithee, Partridge, wast thou ever susceptible of Love in thy Life, or hath Time worn away all the Traces of it from thy Memory?' Alack-a-day, cries Partridge, ' well would it have been for me if I had never known what Love was. Infandum Regina jubes renovare Dolorem. I am sure I have tasted all the Tenderness and Sublimities, and Bitterneffes of the Paffion. Was your Mistress unkind then ?' fays Jones. Very " unkind indeed, Sir,' answered Partridge; " for he married me, and made one of the most confounded Wives in the World. However. Heaven be praised, she's gone; and if I believed he was in the Moon, according to a Book I once read, which teaches that to be the Receptacle of departed Spirits, I would never look at it for fear of feeing her: But I wish, Sir, that the Moon was a Looking-glass for your Sake, and that Miss Sophia Western was now placed before it.' 'My dear Partridge,' cries fones, what a Thought was there! A Thought which I am certain could never have entered into any Mind but that of a Lover. O Partridge, could I hope once again to fee that Face ;,,but, alas! f all those golden Dreams are vanished for ever, and my only Refuge from future Misery is to forget the Object of all my former Happiness." And do you really despair of ever seeing Miss " Western again?' answered Partridge: " If you will follow my Advice, I will engage you shall not only see her, but have her in your Arms." Ha! do not awaken a Thought of that Nature, cries Jones. 'I have struggled sufficient-

Ly to conquer all fuch Wishes already. ' Nay,' answered Partridge, 'if you do not wish to have your Mistress in your Arms, you are a most extraordinary Lover indeed.' ' Well, well, fays Jones, 'let us avoid this Subject; but pray what is your Advice?' 'To give it you in, the military Phrase then,' says Partridge,' 'as we are Soldiers; 'To the Right about.' Let us return the Way we came; we may yet reach Gloucester To-night, tho' late; whereas, if we proceed, we are likely, for ought I fee, to ramble about for ever without coming either to ' House or Home.' 'I have already told you my Resolution is to go on,' answered Jones; but I would have you go back. I am obliged, to you for your Company hither; and I beg you to accept a Guinea as a small Instance of my Gratitude. Nay, it would be cruel in me to suffer you to go any farther; for, to deal plainly with you, my chief End and Defire is a gloricus Death in the Service of my King and Country.' 'As for your Money,' replied Partridge, 'I beg, Sir, you will put it up; I will receive none of you at this Time; for at, present I am, I believe, the richer Man of the two. And as your Resolution is to go on, so mine is to follow you if you do. Nay, now my Prefence appears absolutely necessary to take care of you, fince your Intentions are fodefperate; for I promise you my Views are much more prudent: As you are refolved to fall in Battle if you can, fo I am refolved as firmly to come to no Hurt if I can help it. And indeed I have the Comfort to think there will be but little Danger; for a popish Priest told me the other Day, the Business would foon be over,

over, and he believed without a Battle.' A oppifh Prieft,' cries Jones, I have heard, is onot always to be believed when he speaks in Behalf of his Religion.' 'Yes, but fo far,' answered the other, ' from speaking in Behalf of his Religion, he assured me, the Catholicks did not expect to be any Gainers by the Change; for that Prince Charles was as good a Protestant as any in England; and that nothing but Regard to Right made him and the rest of the populh Party to be facobites. 6 I believe him to be as much a Protestant as I believe he hath any Right,' fays Jones, ' and I make no Doubt of our Success, but not without a Battle. So that I am not fo fanguine as 'your Friend the popish Priest.' 'Nay, to be fure, Sir,' answered Partridge, 'all the Prophecies I have ever read, speak of a great deal of Blood to be spilt in the Quarrel, and the Miller with three Thumbs, who is now alive, is to hold the Horses of three Kings, up to his Knees in Blood. Lord have Mercy upon us all, and fend better Times!' With what 6 Stuff and Nonfense hast thou filled thy Head,' answered Jones? 'This too, I suppose, comes from the popish Priest. Monsters and Prodigies are the proper Arguments to support monfirous and abfurd Doctrines. The Caufe of King George is the Cause of Liberty and true Religion. In other Words, it is the Cause of common Sense, my Boy, and I warrant you will fucceed, tho' Briarers himself was to rife again with his hundred Thumbs, and to turn Miller.' Partridge made no Reply to this. He was indeed cast into the utmost Confusion by this Declaration of Jones. For to inform the Reader of

of a Secret, which we had no proper Opportunity of revealing before, Partridge was in Truth a facobite, and had concluded that fones was of the same Party, and was now proceeding to join the Rebels. An Opinion which was not without Foundation. For the tall long-fided Dame, mentioned by Hudibras; that many-eyed, manytongued, many-mouthed, many-eared Monster of Virgil, had related the Story of the Quarrel between Jones and the Officer, with her usual Regard to Truth. She had indeed changed the Name of Sophia into that of the Pretender, and had reported, that drinking his Health was the Caufe for which Jones was knocked down. This Partridge had heard, and most firmly believed. 'Tis no Wonder, therefore, that he had thence entertained the above-mentioned Opinion of Fones; and which he had almost discovered to him before he found out his own Mistake. And at this the Reader will be the less inclined to wonder, if he pleases to recollect the doubtful Phrase in which Jones first communicated his Refolution to Mr. Partridge; and, indeed, had the Words been less ambiguous, Partridge might very well have conftrued them as he did; being perfuaded, as he was, that the whole Nation were of the fame Inclination in their Hearts: Nor did it stagger him that Jones had travelled in the Company of Soldiers; for he had the same Opinion of the Army which he had of the rest of the People.

But however well affected he might be to fames or Charles, he was still much more attached to little Benjamin than to either; for which Reafon he no sooner discovered the Principles of his Fellow-traveller, than he thought proper to con-

ceal,

ceal, and outwardly to give up his own to the Man on whom he depended for the making his Fortune, fince he by no means believed the Affairs of Jones to be so desperate as they really were with Mr. Allworthy; for as he had kept a conflant Correspondence with some of his Neighbours since he lest that Country, he had heard much, indeed more than was true, of the great Affection Mr. Allworthy bore this young Man, who, as Partridge had been instructed, was to be that Gentleman's Heir, and whom, as we have said, he did not in the least doubt to be his Son.

He imagined, therefore, that whatever Quarrel was between them, it would be certainly made up at the Return of Mr. Jones; an Event from which he promifed great Advantages, if he could take this Opportunity of ingratiating himself with that young Gentleman; and if he could by any Means be instrumental in procuring his Return, he doubted not, as we have before said, but it would as highly advance him in the Favour of

Mr. Allworthy.

We have already observed, that he was a very good-natured Fellow, and he hath himself declared the violent Attachment he had to the Perfon and Character of Jones; but possibly the Views which I have just before mentioned, might likewise have some little Share in prompting him to undertake this Expedition, at least in urging him to continue it, after he had discovered, that his Master and himself, like some prudent Fathers and Sons, tho' they travelled together in great Friendship, had embraced opposite Parties. I am led into this Conjecture, by having remarked, that tho' Love, Friendship, Esteem, and such like, have very powerful Operations in the hu-

man Mind; Interest, however, is an Ingredient feldom omitted by wife Men, when they would work others to their own Purposes. This is indeed a most excellent Medicine, and like Ward's Pill, flies at once to the particular Part of the Body on which you defire to operate, whether it be the Tongue, the Hand, or any other Member. where it scarce ever fails of immediately producing the defired Effect.

CHAP. X.

In which our Travellers meet with a very extraordinary Adventure.

TUST as Jones and his Friend came to the End of their Dialogue in the preceding Chapter, they arrived at the Bottom of a very fleep Hill. Here Jones stopt short, and directing his Eves upwards, flood for a while filent. At length he called to his Companion, and faid, ' Par-' tridge, I wish I was at the Top of this Hill; it must certainly afford a most charming Prof-' pect, especially by this Light: For the solemn Gloom which the Moon casts on all Objects, is beyond Expression beautiful, especially to an 'Imagination which is defirous of cultivating " melancholy Ideas.' 'Very probably,' answered Partridge; 'but if the Top of the Hill be propereft to produce melancholy Thoughts, I fupopofe the Bottom is the likelieft to produce merry ones, and these I take to be much the better of the two. I protest you have made my Blood run cold with the very mentioning the Top of that Mountain; which feems to me to be one of the highest in the World. No, no, if we

· look for any thing, let it be for a Place under Ground, to screen ourselves from the Frost .--Do fo, faid Jones, let it be but within Hearing of this Place, and I will hallow to you at my Return back. Surely, Sir, you are not mad," faid Partridge. ' Indeed I am,' answered Yones, if afcending this Hill be Madness: But as you complain fo much of the Cold already, I would have you flay below. I will certainly return to you within an Hour. ' Pardon me, Sir,' cries Partridge, 'I have determined to follow 'you where-ever you go.' Indeed he was now afraid to stay behind; for tho' he was Coward enough in all Respects, yet his chief Fear was that of Ghosts, with which the present Time of

Night, and the Wildness of the Place extremely well fuited.

At this Instant Partridge espied a glimmering Light through some Trees, which seemed very near to them. He immediately cried out in a Rapture, 'Oh, Sir! Heaven hath at last heard my Prayers, and hath brought us to a House; e perhaps it may be an Inn. Let me beseech vou, Sir, if you have any Compassion either for me or yourfelf, do not despise the Goodness of Providence, but let us go directly to you Light. Whether it be a Public-house or no. I am fure if they be Christians that dwell there, they will not refuse a little House-room to Perfons in our miserable Condition' Jones at length yielded to the earnest Supplications of Partridge, and both together made directly towards the Place whence the Light isfued.

They foon arrived at the Door of this House or Cottage: For it might be called either, without much Impropriety. Here Jones knocked se-

veral Times without receiving any Answer from within; at which Partridge, whose Head was full of nothing but of Ghosts, Devils, Witches, and fuch like, began to tremble, crying, Lord have Mercy upon us, fure the People must be all dead. I can fee no Light neither now, and vet I am certain I faw a Candle burning but a Moment before. -- Well! I have heard of fuch Things .-- What hast thou heard of, faid Jones. The People are either fast asleep, or probably as this is a lonely Place, are afraid to open their Door.' He then began to vociferate pretty loudly, and at last an old Woman opening an upper Casement, asked who they were, and what they wanted?' fones answered, they were Travellers who had loft their Way, and having seen a Light in the Window, had been * led thither in Hopes of finding fome Fire to warm themselves.' Whoever you are,' cries the Woman, 'you have no Bufiness here; nor ' shall I open the Door to any body at this * Time of Night.' Partridge, whom the Sound of a human Voice had recovered from his Fright, fell to the most earnest Supplications to be admitted for a few Minutes to the Fire, faying, he was almost dead with the Cold,' to which Fear had indeed contributed equally with the oat Frost. He assured her, that the Gentleman who fpoke to her, was one of the greatest Squires in some the Country, and made use of every Argument fave one, which Jones afterwards effectually added, and this was the Promise of Half a Crown. A Bribe too great to be refifted by fuch a Person, especially as the genteel Appearance of Fones, which the Light of the Moon plainly discovered to her, together with his affable Behaviour, had entirely

entirely fubdued those Apprehensions of Thieves which she had at first conceived. She agreed, therefore, at last to let them in, where Partridge, to his infinite loy, found a good Fire ready for Mercy upon us, fure the f

his Reception.

The poor Fellow, however, had no fooner warmed himfelf, than those Thoughts which were always uppermost in his Mind, began a little to disturb his Brain. There was no Article of his Creed in which he had a stronger Faith, than he had in Witchcraft, nor can the Reader conceive a Figure more adapted to inspire this Idea, than the old Woman who now stood before him. She answered exactly to that Picture drawn by Otway in his Orphan. Indeed if this Woman had lived in the Reign of James the First, her Appearance alone would have hanged her, almost without any Evidence.

Many Circumstances likewise conspired to confirm Partridge in his Opinion. Her living, as he then imagined, by herself in so lonely a Place; and in a House, the Outside of which seemed much too good for her; but its Infide was furnished in the most neat and elegant Manner. To fay the Truth, Jones himself was not a little furprized at what he faw: For, befides the extraordinary Neatness of the Room, it was adorned with a great Number of Nicknacks, and Curiofities, which might have engaged the Attention

of a Virtuofo.

While fones was admiring these Things, and Partridge fat trembling with the firm Belief that he was in the House of a Witch, the old Woman faid, 'I hope, Gentlemen, you will make what Hafte you can; for I expect my Mafter prefently, and I would not for double the Moe nev he should find you here.' Then you have a Master,' cried Jones; 'indeed you will excufe me, good Woman, but I was surprized to fee all those fine Things in your House.' Ah. Sir!' faid fhe, 'if the twentieth Part of these Things were mine, I should think myself a rich Woman; but pray, Sir, do not stay much longer: For I look for him in every Minute.' --- Why fure he would not be angry with you,' faid Jones, 'for doing a common Act of Charity.' Alack-a-day, Sir,' faid she, ' he is a strange Man, not at all like other People. He keeps ono Company with any Body, and feldom walks out but by Night, for he doth not care to be feen; and all the Country People are as much afraid of meeting him; for his Dress is enough to frighten those who are not used to it. . They call him, The Man of the Hill (for there he walks by Night) and the Country People are not, I believe, more afraid of the Devil himfelf. He would be terribly angry if he found 'you here.' 'Pray, Sir, fays Partridge, 'don't Let us offend the Gentleman, I am ready to walk, and was never warmer in my Life .---Do, pray Sir, let us go- -here are Piftols over the Chimney; who knows whether they be ch. rged or no, or what he may do with them?' Fear nothing, Partridge, cries fones, 'I will fecure thee from Danger.' -- Nay, for Matter o' that, he never doth any Mischief,' faid the Woman; 'but to be fure it is necessary he should keep fome Arms for his own Safety; for his " House hath been beset more than once, and it 6 is not many Nights ago, that we thought we heard Thieves about it: For my own Part, 6 I have often wondered that he is not murdered by fome Villain or other, as he walks out by himself at such Hours; but then, as I said, the · People are afraid of him, and besides they think, I suppose, he hath nothing about him worth ' taking.' 'I should imagine, by this Collection of Rarities, cries Jones, that your Mafter had been a Traveller.' 'Yes, Sir,' answered she, he hath been a very great one; there be few Gentlemen that know more of all Matters than he; I fancy he hath been croft in Love, or whatever it is, I know not, but I have lived with him above these thirty Years, and in all that Time he hath hardly spoke to fix living People.' She then again folicited their Departure, in which she was backed by Partridge; but Jones purposely protacted the Time: For his Curiofity was greatly raifed to fee this extraordinary Person. Tho' the old Woman, therefore, concluded every one of her Answers with defiring him to be gone, and Partridge proceeded for far as to pull him by the Sleeve, he still continued to invent new Questions, till the old Woman with an affrighted Countenance, declared The heard her Mafter's Signal; and at the fame Inffant more than one Voice was heard without the Door, crying, 'D --- n your Blood, shew us your Money this Instant. Your Money, you Willain, or we will blow your Brains about o your Ears.' O, good Heaven!' cries the old Woman,

Good Heaven! Cries the old Woman, fome Villains, to be fure, have attacked my Mafter. O la! what shall I do? what shall I do? 'How, cries Jones, how-Are these Pistols loaded?' O, good Sir, there is nothing in them, indeed---O, pray don't murder us, Gentlemen,' (for in Reality she now had the same

Opinion

Opinion of those within, as she had of those without.) Jones made her no Answer; but snatching an old Broad-sword which hung in the Room, he instantly sallied out, where he found the old Gentleman struggling with two Russians, and begging for Mercy. Jones asked no Questions, but fell fo briskly to work with his Broad-sword, that the Fellows immediately quitted their Hold; and, without offering to attack our Heroe, betook themselves to their Heels, and made their Escape; for he did not attempt to pursue them, being contented with having delivered the old Gentleman; and indeed he concluded he had pretty well done their Business: For both of them, as they ran off, cried out with bitter Oaths, that they were dead Men.

Jones presently ran to lift up the old Gentleman, who had been thrown down in the Scuffle, expressing at the same Time great Concern, left he should have received any Harm from the Villains. The old Man stared a Moment at Jones, and then cried, -- 'No, Sir, no, I have very little Harm, I thank you. Lord have Mercy upon me.' 'I fee, Sir,' faid Jones, 'you are onot free from Apprehensions even of those who have had the Happiness to be your Deliverers; onor can I blame any Suspicions which you may have; but indeed, you have no real Occasion for any; here are none but your Friends prefent. Having mift our Way this cold Night, we took the Liberty of warming ourselves at your Fire, whence we were just departing when we heard you call for Affiftance, which I must say, Providence alone scems to have fent you.'- Providence indeed,' cries the old Gentleman, 'if it be fo.'- 'So it is, I affure you,' cries

cries Jones, here is your own Sword, Sir. I have used it in your Defence, and I now return it into your own Hand.' The old Man having received the Sword, which was stained with the Blood of his Enemies, looked stedfastly at Jones during fome Moments, and then with a Sigh, cried out, 'You will pardon me, young Gentleman, I was not always of a fuspicious Temper, onor am I a Friend to Ingratitude.' Be thankful then, cries Jones, to that Providence to which you owe your Deliverance; as to my Part, I have only discharged the common Duties of Humanity, and what I would have done for any Fellow Creature in your Situation. Let me look at you a little longer,' cries the old Gentleman- You are a human Creature then?-Well, perhaps you are. Come, pray walk into my little Hutt. You have been my Deliverer indeed.

The old Woman was distracted between the Fears which she had of her Master, and for him; and Partridge was, if possible, in a greater Fright. The former of these, however, when she heard her Master speak kindly to Jones, and perceived what had happened, came again to herself; but Partridge no sooner saw the Gentleman, than the Strangeness of his Dress insused greater Terrors into that poor Fessow, than he had before selt either from the strange Description which he had heard, or from the Uproar which had happened at the Door.

To fay the Truth, it was an Appearance which might have affected a more conftant. Mind than that of Mr. Partridge. This Perfon was of the talleft Size, with a long Beard as white as Snow. His Body was cloathed with the Skin of an Afs,

made

made fomething into the Form of a Coat. He wore likewise Boots on his Legs, and a Cap on his Head, both compessed of the Skin of some other Animals.

As foon as the old Gentleman came into his House, the old Woman began her Congratulations on his happy Escape from the Russians. 'Yes,' cried he, 'I have escaped indeed, Thanks to my 'Preserver.' Othe Blessing on him,' answered she, 'he is a good Gentleman, I warrant him. I was asraid your Worship would have been angry with me for letting him in; and to be certain I should not have done it, had not I seen by the Moon-light, that he was a Gentleman, and almosh frozen to Death. And to be certain it must have been some good Angelthat

fent him hither, and tempted me to doct. 'I am afraid, Sir,' faid the old Gentleman to Jones, 'that I have nothing in this House, which you can either eat or drink, unless you will accept a Dram of Brandy; of which I can give you fome most excellent, and which I have had by me these thirty Years.' Jones declined this Offer in a very civil and proper Speech, and then the other asked him 'Whither he was travelling when he mist his Way; faying, I must own myself surprized to see such a Person as you appear to be journeying on Foot at this Time of Night. I suppose, Sir, you are a Gentleman of these Parts: for you do not look like one who is used to travel far without Horses.' Appearances,' cried Jones, are often deceitful; Men fometimes look like what they are not. I assure you, I am not of this Country, and whither I am travelling, in Reality I fearce know myfelf.'

Whoever

Whoever you are, or whitherfoever you are going, answered the old Man, I have Obligations to you which I can never return.

'I-once more,' replied Jones, 'affirm, that' you have none: For there can be no Merit in having hazarded that in your Service on which 'I fet no Value. And nothing is so contemptible, in my Eyes as Life.'

'I am forry, young Gentleman,' answered, the Stranger, 'that you have any Reason to be so

unhappy at your Years.'

'Indeed I am, Sir,' answered Jones, 'the.
'most unhappy of Mankind.'—' Perhaps you,
'have had a Friend, or a Mistress,' replied the
other. 'How could you,' cries Jones, 'men'tion two Words sufficient to drive me to Dis
'straction.' Either of them are enough to
'drive any Man to Distraction,' answered the
old Man. 'I enquire no farther, Sir. Perhaps
'my Curiosity hath led me too far already.'
'Indeed, Sir,' cries Jones, 'I cannot censure

a Passion, which I feel at this Instant in the highest Degree. You will pardon me, when I assure you, that every Thing which I have seen or heard since I first entered this House, hath conspired to raise the greatest Curiosity in me. Something very extraordinary must have determined you to this Course of Life, and I have reason to sear your own History is not without

· Misfortunes.'

Here the old Gentleman again fighed, and remained filent for some Minutes; at last, looking earnestly on *Jones*, he said, 'I have read that a good Countenance is a Letter of Recommendation; if so, none ever can be more strongly recommended than yourself. If I did not seel fome

fome Yearnings towards you from another Confideration, I must be the most ungrateful Monfer upon Earth; and I am really concerned it

is no otherwise in my Power, than by Words,

' to convince you of my Gratitude.'

Jones after a Moment's Hesitation, answered, That it was in his Power by Words to gratify him extremely. I have confest a Curiosity, said he, Sir; need I say how much obliged I should be to you, if you would condescend to gratify it? Will you suffer me therefore to beg, unless any Consideration restrains you, that you would be pleased to acquaint me what Motives have induced you thus to withdraw from the Society of Mankind, and to betake yourself to a Course of Life to which it sufficiently

appears you were not born?' ' I scarce think myself at Liberty to refuse you any thing, after what hath happened,' replied the old Man, 'If you defire therefore to hear the Story of an unhappy Man, I will relate it to vou. Indeed you judge rightly, in thinking there is commonly fomething extraordinary in the Fortunes of those who fly from Society: For however it may feem a Paradox, or even a Contradiction, certain it is that great Philanthropy chiefly inclines us to avoid and detest Mankind; not on Account fo much of their o private and felfish Vices, but for those of a re-Lative Kind; fuch as Envy, Malice, Treachery, Cruelty, with every other Species of Ma-6 levolence. These are the Vices which true e Philanthropy abhors, and which rather than 6 fee and converse with, she avoids Society itself. However, without a Compliment to you, you do not appear to me one of those whom I 6 should

fhould shun or detest; nay, I must say, in what

little hath dropt from you, there appears fome
Parity in our Fortunes; I hope however yours

will conclude more fuccessfully.'

Here some Compliments passed between our Heroe and his Host, and then the latter was going to begin his History, when Partridge interrupted him. His Apprehensions had now pretty well left him; but some Effects of his Terrors remained; he therefore reminded the Gentleman of that excellent Brandy which he had mentioned. This was presently brought, and Partridge swallowed a large Bumper.

The Gentleman then, without any farther Preface, began as you may read in the next

Chapter. Anger have approved a bloom in and let *

* appears the view of HrA P. XI. To refler ou

In which the Man of the Hill begins to relate his History.

Was born in a Village of Somersetshire, called Mark, in the Year 1657; my Fa-

ther was one of those whom they call Gentlemen Farmers. He had a little Estate of about

men Farmers. He had a little Estate of about 300l. a Year of his own, and rented another

Estate of near the same Value. He was pru-

dent and industrious, and so good a Husbandman, that he might have led a very easy and

comfortable Life, had not an arrant Vixen of a Wife foured his domestic Quiet. But tho'

this Circumstance perhaps made him miserable,

it did not make him poor: For he confined her almost entirely at Home, and rather chose to

bear eternal Upbraidings in his own House,

than to injure his Fortune by indulging her in

the Extravagancies she defired abroad. By this Xanthippe' (fo was the Wife of Socrates called, faid Partridge) By this Xanthippe he had two Sons, of which I was the younger. He 6 designed to give us both good Education; but my elder Brother, who, unhappily for him, was the Favourite of my Mother, utterly nege lected his Learning; infomuch that after having been five or fix Years at School with little or no Improvement, my Father being told by his Master, that it would be to no Purpose to keep him longer there, at last complied with my Mother in taking him home from the Hands of that Tyrant, as the called his Mafter; though indeed he gave the Lad much lefs Correction than his Idleness deserved, but much more, it feems, than the young Gentleman

liked, who conflantly complained to his Mother of his fevere Treatment, and she as con-

flantly gave him a Hearing.'

"Yes, yes," cries Partridge, "I have feen fuch Mothers; I have been abused myself by them, and very unjustly; fuch Parents deferve

Correction as much as their Children."

Fones chid the Pedagogue for his Interruption, and then the Stranger proceeded. 'My Brother onow, at the Age of fifteen, bid adieu to all Learning, and to every thing elfe but to his Dog and Gun, with which latter he became fo expert, that, though perhaps you may think it incredible, he could not only hit a standing

Mark with great Certainty, but hath actually fhot a Crow as it was flying in the Air. He

was likewise excellent at finding a Hare sitting, and was foon reputed one of the best Sportsmen

' in the Country. A Reputation which both he and his Mother enjoyed as much as if he had

been thought the finest Scholar.

"The Situation of my Brother made me at first think my Lot the harder, in being continued at School; but I foon changed my Opinion; for as I advanced pretty fast in Learning, my Labours became easy, and my Exercise fo delightful, that Holidays were my most un-" pleafant Time: For my Mother, who never 6 loved me, now apprehending that I had the e greater Share of my Father's Affection, and finding, or at least thinking, that I was more taken Notice of by some Gentlemen of Learning, and particularly by the Parson of the Parish, than my Brother, the now hated my Sight. and made Home fo difagreeable to me, that what is called by Schoolboys Black Monday, was to me the whitest in the whole Year.

' Having, at length, gone through the School at Taunton, I was thence removed to Exeter 6 College in Oxford, where I remained four Years; at the End of which an Accident took me off entirely from my Studies; and s hence I may truly date the Rife of all which

happened to me afterwards in Life.

'There was at the same College with myself one Sir George Gresham, a young Fellow who was intitled to a very confiderable Fortune; which he was not, by the Will of his Father, to come into full Possession of, till he arrived at the Age of Twenty-five. However, the Liberality of his Guardians gave him little Caufe to regret the abundant Caution of his Father: For they allowed him Five hundred Pound a Year while he remained at the University,

where he kept his Horses and his Whore, and lived as wicked and as profligate a Life, as he could have done, had he been never so entirely Master of his Fortune; for besides the Five hundred a Year which he received from his Guardians, he sound Means to spend a Thousand more. He was above the Age of Twentyone, and had no Difficulty in gaining what

Credit he pleased.

This young Fellow, among many other tolerable bad Qualities, had one very diabolical.
He had a great Delight in destroying and ruining the Youth of inferior Fortune, by drawing
them into Expences which they could not afford so well as himself; and the better, and
worthier, and soberer, any young Man was,
the greater Pleasure and Triumph had he in his
Destruction. Thus acting the Character which
is recorded of the Devil, and going about seeking whom he might devour.

It was my Misfortune to fall into an Acquaintance and Intimacy with this Gentleman.
My Reputation of Diligence in my Studies made me a destrable Object of his mischievous Intention; and my own Inclination made it sufficiently easy for him to effect his Purpose; for tho' I had applied myself with much Industry to Books, in which I took great Delight, there were other Pleasures in which I was capable of taking much greater; for I was highmettled, had a violent Flow of animal Spirits, was a little ambitious, and extremely amorous.

I had not long contracted an Intimacy with Sir George, before I became a Partaker of all his Pleafures; and when I was once entered on that

that Scene, neither my Inclination, nor my Spirit, would fuffer me to play an Under-Part. I was fecond to none of the Company in any · Acts of Debauchery; nay, I foon diffinguished myself fo notably in all Riots and Diferders, that my Name generally flood first in the Roll

of Delinquents; and instead of being lamented

as the unfortunate Pupil of Sir George, I was 6 now accused as the Person who had misled and

debauched that hopeful young Gentleman; for

6 tho' he was the Ring-leader and Promoter of all

the Mischief, he was never so considered. I fell at last under the Cenfure of the Vice-

Chancellor, and very narrowly escaped Ex-

6 pulfion. You will eafily believe, Sir, that fuch a Life as I am now describing must be incompatible with my further Progress in Learning; and that in Proportion as I addicted myfelf more and more to loofe Pleafure, I must grow more and more remiss in Application to my Studies. This was truly the Confequence; but this was onot all. My Expences now great'y exceeded onot only my former Income, but those Additions which I extorted from my poor generous Father, on Pretences of Sums being necessary for preparing for my approaching Degree of Batchelor of Arts. These Demands, however, grew at last fo frequent and exorbitant, that my Father, by flow Degrees, opened his Ears to the Accounts which he received from many Quarters of my present Behaviour, and which my Mother failed not to echo very faithfully and loudly; adding, "Ay, this is the fine Gen-

tleman, the Scholar who doth fo much Honour " to his Family, and is to be the Making of it.

VOL. II.

to. He is to be the Ruin of us all, I find, after his elder Brother hath been denied Neceffaries for his Sake, to perfect his Education
forfooth, for which he was to pay us fuch Interest: I thought what the Interest would come
to;" with much more of the same Kind; but
I have, I believe fatisfied you with this Taste.

I have, I believe fatisfied you with this Tafte.

My Father, therefore, began now to return Remonstrances, instead of Money, to my Demands, which brought my Affairs perhaps a little fooner to a Crifis; but had he remitted me his whole Income, you will imagine it could have sufficed a very short Time to support one who kept Pace with the Expences of Sir George Gresham.

' It is more than possible, that the Distress I was now in for Money, and the Impracticability of going on in this Marner, might have " restored me at once to my Senses, and to my Studies, had I opened my Eyes, before I became involved in Debts, from which I faw no · Hopes of ever extricating myfelf. This was ' indeed the great Art of Sir George, and by which he accomplished the Ruin of many, whom he afterwards laughed at as Fools and Coxcombs, for vying, as he called it, with a Man of his Fortune. To bring this about, he would now and then advance a little Money himfelf, in order to support the Credit of the unfortunate 4 Youth with other People; till, by Means of that very Credit, he was irretrievably undone. My Mind being, by thefe Means, grown as

desperate as my Fortune, there was scarce a Wickedness which I did not meditate, in order for my Relief. Self-murder itself became

der for my Relief. Self-murder itself became

the Subject of my serious Deliberation; and I had certainly refolved on it, had not a more ' shameful, tho' perhaps less finful, Thought ex-' pelled it from my Head.' Here he besitated a Moment, and then cried out, 'I protest, fo many 'Years have not washed away the Shame of this Act, and I shall blush while I relate it.' defired him to pass over any Thing that might give him Pain in the Relation; but Partridge eagerly cried out, 'O pray, Sir, let us hear this; I had rather hear this than all the rest: As I hope to be faved, I will never mention a Word of it.' 'fones was going to rebuke him, but the Stranger prevented it by proceeding thus. 'I ' had a Chum, a very prudent, frugal young Lad, who, tho' he had no very large Allow-' ance, had by his Parfimony heaped up upwards of forty Guineas, which I knew he kept in his Escritore. I took therefore an Opportunity of 6 purloining his Key from his Breeches Pocket " while he was afleep, and thus made myfelf 6 Master of all his Riches. After which I again conveyed his Key into his Pocket, and counterfeiting Sleep, tho' I never once closed my Eyes, lay in Bed till after he arose and went to Prayers, an Exercise to which I had long been " unaccustomed. ' Timorous Thieves, by extreme Caution, often subject themselves to Discoveries, which

often subject themselves to Discoveries, which those of a bolder Kind escape. Thus it happened to me; for had I boldly broke open his Escritore, I had, perhaps, escaped even his Suspicion; but as it was plain that the Person who robbed him had possessed himself of his Key, he had no Doubt, when he first missed him Money, but that his Chum was certainly the M 2

' tion, and much my Inferior in Strength, and,

'I believe, in Courage, he did not dare to con-

front me with my Guilt, for fear of worse bo-

dily Confequences which might happen to him. He repaired therefore immediately to the Vice-

6 Chancellor, and, upon swearing to the Rob-

bery, and to the Circumstances of it, very easily

obtained a Warrant against one who had now

fo bad a Character through the whole Uni-

· versity ..

Luckily for me I lay out of the College the next Evening; for that Day I attended a young

Lady in a Chaife to Whitney, where we staid

all Night; and in our Return the next Morn-

ing to Oxford, I met one of my Cronies, who acquainted me with fufficient News concerning

'myself to make me turn my Horse another

· Way.

'Pray, Sir, did he mention any thing of the Warrant?' faid Partridge. But Jones begged the Gentleman to proceed without regarding any impertinent Questions; which he did as follows.

'Having now abandoned all Thoughts of returning to Oxford, the next Thing which of-

fered itself was a Journey to London. I imparted this Intention to my female Companion,

who at first remonstrated against it; but upon

producing my Wealth, she immediately con-

fented. We then struck across the Country into the great Girencester Road, and made such

Hafte, that we spent the next Evening (save

one) in London.

6 When

When you confider the Place where I now was, and the Company with whom I was, you will, I fancy, conceive that a very fhort Time

brought me to an End of that Sum of which I had fo iniquitously possessed myself. I was now reduced to a much higher Degree of Distress than before; the Necessaries of Life began to be numbred among my Wants; and what made my Case still the more grievous, was, that my Paramour, of whom I was now grown immoderately fond, shared the same Distresses with myself. To see a Woman you love in Distress; to be unable to relieve her, and at the same Time to reflect that you have brought her into this Situation, is, perhaps, a Curfe of which no Imagination can represent the Horrors to those who have not felt it.' ' I believe it from my Soul,' cries Jones; and I 6 pity you from the Bottom of my Heart.' He then took two or three diforderly Turns about the Room, and at last begged Pardon, and slung himself into his Chair, crying, I thank Heaven

I have escaped that.' · This Circumstance ' continued the Gentleman, ' fo feverely aggravated the Horrors of my present Situation, that they became absolutely intolerable. I could with less Pain endure the raging of my own natural unfatisfied Appetites, even Hunger or Thirst, than I could submit to · leave ungratified the most whimsical Defires of a Woman, on whom I fo extravagantly doated, that tho' I knew she had been the Mistress of

half my Acquaintance, I firmly intended to marry her. But the good Creature was unwil-

ling to confent to an Action which the World might think fo much to my Difadvantage. And 6 25, M 3

* as, possibly, she compassionated the daily An* xieties which she must have perceived me suffer on her Account, she resolved to put an End
to my Distress. She soon, indeed, sound Means
to relieve me from my troublesome and perplexed Situation: For while I was distracted
with various Inventions to supply her with

with various Inventions to supply her with Pleasures, she very kindly—betrayed me to one

of her former Lovers at Oxford, by whose Care and Diligence I was immediately apprehended

and committed to Goal.

Here I first began seriously to reflect on the
Miscarriages of my former Life; on the Errors
I had been guilty of; on the Missortunes which
I had brought on myself; and on the Grief
which I must have occasioned to one of the best
of Fathers. When I added to all these the Perfidy of my Mistress, such was the Horror of my
Mind, that Life, instead of being longer defirable, grew the Object of my Abhorrence;
and I could have gladly embraced Death, as my
dearest Friend, if it had offered itself to my
Choice unattended by Shame,

The Time of the Affizes foon came, and I was removed by Habeas Corpus to Oxford, where I expected certain Conviction and Condemnation; but, to my great Surprize, none appeared against me, and I was, at the End of the Sessions, discharged for Want of Prosecution. In short, my Chum had lest Oxford, and whether from Indolence, or from what other Motive, I am ignorant, had declined concern-

ing himfelf any farther in the Affair.

Perhaps,' cries Partride, 'he did not care to have your Blood upon his Hands, and he was in the Right on't. If any Perfon was to he

be hanged upon my Evidence, I should never be able to lie alone afterwards, for fear of fee-

ing his Ghoft.'

whether thou art more brave or wife. You may laugh at me, Sir, if you please, answered Partridge; but if you will hear a very short Story which I can tell, and which is most certainly true, perhaps you may change your Opinion. In the Parish where I was born there I was born there I was born there I was sorn there to tell his Story, and in the mean Time promised to recollect the Remainder of his own.

Partridge then proceeded thus. 'In the Parish where I was born, there lived a Farmer whose Name was Bridle, and he had a Son named Francis, a good hopeful young Fellow: I was at the Grammar-School with him, where I remember he was got into Ovid's Epistles, and he could construe you three Lines together fometimes without looking into a Dictionary. Besides all this, he was a very good Lad, never missed Church o' Sundays, and was reckoned one of the best Psalm-singers in the whole Parish. He would indeed now and then take a Cup too much, and that was the only Fault he had.'- Well, but come to the Ghoft, cries Fones. ' Never fear, Sir, I shall come to him ' foon enough,' answered Partridge. ' You must know then, that Farmer Bridle loft a Mare, a forrel one to the best of my Remembrance; and fo it fell out, that this young Francis shortely afterward being at a Fair at Hindon, and as I think it was on-I cant't remember the Day;

' meet, but a Man upon his Father's Mare. Frank called out prefently, Stop Thief; and it being in the Middle of the Fair, it was imposfible, you know, for the Man to make his Escape. So they apprehended him, and cars ried him before the Justice; I remember it was · Justice Willoughty of Noyle, a very worthy good Gentleman, and he committed him to Prison, and bound Frank in a Recognizance, I think they call it, a hard Word compounded of reand cognosco; but it differs in its Meaning from the Use of the Simple, as many other Compounds do. Well, at last, down came my Lord Justice Page to hold the Affizes, and for the Fellow was had up, and Frank was had up for a Witness. To be fure I shall never forget the Face of the Judge, when he began to ask ' him what he had to fay against the Prisoner. ' He made poor Frank tremble and shake in his Shoes. Well, you Fellow, fays my Lord, what have you to fay? Don't stand humming and hawing, but speak out; but however he ' foon turned altogether as civil to Frank, and began to thunder at the Fellow; and when he asked him, if he had any Thing to say for himfelf, the Fellow faid he had found the Horfe. · Ay! answered the Judge, thou arta lucky Fel-· low; I have travelled the Circuit these forty Years, and never found a Horse in my Life; but I'll tell thee what, Friend, thou wast more · lucky than thou didft know of: For thou didft onot only find a Horse, but a Halter too, I pro-" mise thee. To be sure I shall never forget the Word. Upon which every Body fell a laughing, as how could they help it? Nay, and twenty other Jests he made, which I can't re-6 member

member now. There was fomething about his Skill in Horse-Flesh, which made all the Folks laugh. To be certain the Judge must have been a very brave Man, as well as a Man of much Learning. It is indeed charming Sport to hear Trials upon Life and Death. One Thing I own I thought a little hard, that the Prisoner's Counsel was not suffered to fpeak for him, though he defired only to be heard one very fhort Word; but my Lord would not hearken to him, though he fuffered a Counfellor to talk against him for above half an Hour. I thought it hard, I own, that there fhould be fo many of them; my Lord; and the Court, and the Jury, and the Counsellors, and the Witnesses all upon one poor Man, and he too in Chains. Well, the Fellow was hanged, as to be fure it cou'd be no otherwife, and poor Frank could never be easy about it. He never was in the Dark alone, but he fancied he faw the Fellow's Spirit.' Well, and is this thy Story?' cries Jones. ' No, no,' answered Partridge; O Lord have Mercy upon me. - I am just now coming to the Matter; for one Night; coming from the Alehouse in a long narrow dark Lane, there he ran directly up against him, and the Spirit was all in White, and fell upon Frank; and Frank, who is a sturdy Lad, " fell upon the Spirit again, and there they had a Tuffel together, and poor Frank was dreadfully beat : Indeed he made a Shift at last to crawl home; but what with the Beating, and what with the Fright, he lay ill above a Fortnight; and all this is most certainly true, and the whole 4 Parish will bear Witness to it.' Don a dried to the M 500 ale la la The.

The Stranger smiled at this Story, and Jones burst into a loud Fit of Laughter, upon which Partridge cried, ' Ay, you may laugh, Sir, and 6 fo did fome others, particularly a Squire, who is thought to be no better than an Atheist; who forfooth, because there was a Calf with a white Face found dead in the same Lane the next Morning, would fain have it, that the Battle was between Frank and that, as if a Calf would fet upon a Man. Besides, Frank told me he knew it to be a Spirit, and could fwear to him in any Court in Christendom, and he had not drank above a Quart or two, or fuch a Matter of Liquor at the Time. Lud have Mercy upon us, and keep us all from dipping our Hands in Blood, I fay.'

Well, Sir,' faid Jones to the Stranger, 'Mr.
Partridge hath finished his Story, and I hope
will give you no future Interruption, if you
will be so kind to proceed.' He then resumed
his Narration; but as he hath taken Breath for a
while, we think proper to give it to our Reader,
and shall therefore put an End to this Chapter.

CHAP. XII.

In which the Man of the Hill continues his History.

Stranger, 'but I had loft my Reputation; for there is a wide Difference between the Cafe of a Man who is barely acquitted of a Crime in a Court of Justice, and of him who is acquitted in his own Heart, and in the Opinion of the People. I was conscious of my Guilt, and 'ashamed

ashamed to look any one in the Face, so re-

folved to leave Oxford the next Morning, be-

fore the Day-light discovered me to the Eyes of any Beholders. house a storito ou

When I had got clear of the City, it first entered into my Head to return Home to my

Father, and endeavour to obtain his Forgiven-

ness; but as I had no Reason to doubt his Knowledge of all which had past, and as I was

well affured of his great Aversion to all Acts of

Dishonesty I could entertain no Hopes of being received by him, especially since I was too

certain of all the good Offices in the Power of

my Mother: Nay, had my Father's Pardon

been as fure, as I conceived his Resentment to

be, I yet question whether I could have had the Affurance to behold him, or whether I could,

upon any Terms, have submitted to live and

converse with those, who, I was convinced,

knew me to have been guilty of fo base an Ac-

f tion.

I haftened therefore back to London, the best Retirement of either Grief or Shame, unless

for Persons of a very public Character; for

here you have the Advantage of Solitude with-

out its Difadvantage, since you may be alone

and in Company at the same Time; and while

you walk or fit unobserved, Noise, Hurry, and a constant Succession of Objects, entertain the

6 Mind, and prevent the Spirits from preying on

themselves, or rather on Grief or Shame, which

are the most unwholesome Diet in the World;

and on which (though there are many who ne-

ver taste either but in public) there are some who can feed very plentifully, and very fatally

when alone.

M 6

6 But

But as there is fcarce any human Good without its concomitant Evil, so there are People
who find an Inconvenience in this unobserving
Temper of Mankind; I mean Persons who
have no Money; for as you are not put out of
Countenance, so neither are you cloathed or
fed by those who do not know you. And a Man
may be as easily starved in Leadenhall Market as
in the Deserts of Arabia.

in the Deserts of Arabia. It was at prefent my Fortune to be destitute of that great Evil, as it is apprehended to be by feveral Writers, who I suppose were overburthened with it, namely, Money.' "With Submission, Sir, said Partridge, I do not remember any Writers who have called it Mabrum; but Irritamenta Malorum. Effodiuntur opes irritamenta Malcrum." Well, Sir, continued the Stranger, whether it be an Evil; or only the Caufe of Evil, I was entirely void of it, and at the same Time of Friends, and as I thought of Acquaintance; when one Evening as I was paffing through the Inner Temple, very hungry, and very miserable, I heard a Voice on a fudden haling me with great Fami-' liarity by my Christian Name; and upon my turning about, I prefently recollected the Per-6 fon who fo faluted me, to have been my Fellow Collegiate; one who had left the Univerfity above a Year, and long before any of my Misfortunes had befallen me. This Gentleman, whose Name was Watfon, shook me heartily by the mand, and expressing great Joy at meeting me, proposed our immediately drinking a Bottle together. I first declined the Proposal, and pretended Business; but as he was very earnest and pressing, Hunger at lastovercameCh. 12. a FOUNDLING.

253

overcame my Pride, and I fairly confessed to him I had no Money in my Pocket; yet not without framing a Lie for an Excuse, and imputing it to my having changed my Breeches that Morning. Mr. Watson answered, "I thought, Jack, you and I had been too old Acquaintance for you to mention such a Matter." He then took me by the Arm, and was pulling me along; but I gave him very little Trouble, for my own Inclinations pulled me

much stronger than he could do.' We then went into the Friars, which you know is the Scene of all Mirth and Jollity. Here when we arrived at the Tavern, Mr. Watfon applied himself to the Drawer only, without taking the leaft Notice of the Cook; for he had no Suspicion but that I had dined long 6 fince. However, as the Cafe was really otherwife, I forged another Falshood, and told my Companion, I had been at the further End of the City on Business of Consequence, and had fnapt up a Mutton Chop in Haste; so that I was again hungry and wished he would add a Beef Steak to his Bottle.' Some People,' cries Partridge, 'ought to have good Memories, or did you find just Money enough in your Breeches to pay for the Mutton Chop?' Your Observation is right,' answered the Stranger, ' and · I belive fuch Blunders are inseparable from all dealing in Untruth.-But to proceed-I began o now to feel myself extremely happy. The Meat and Wine foon revived my Spirits to a high Pitch, and I enjoyed much Pleasure in the Conversation of my old Acquaintance, the rather, as I thought him entirely ignorant of what had happened at the University since his leaving it, & But

But he did not fuffer me to remain long in this agreeable Delusion; for taking a Bumper in one Hand, and holding me by the other, "Here, my Boy," cries he, "here's wishing " you Joy of your being fo honourably acquitted " of that Affair laid to your Charge." 'I was Thunderstruck with Confusion at those Words. which Watjon observing, proceeded thus-" Nay, never be ashamed, Man; thou hast been

acquitted, and no one now dares call thee guilty;

but prithee do tell me, who am thy Friend, I hope thou didft really rob him; for rat me if it

was not a meritorious Action to strip such a fneaking pitiful Rafcal, and instead of the Two

to hundred Guineas, I wish you had taken as " many thousand. Come, come, my Boy, don't

be fly of confessing to me, you are not now

" brought before one of the Pimps. D -- n me, if I don't honour you for it; for, as I hope

66 for Salvation, I would have made no manner

of Scruple of doing the fame Thing." 6 This Declaration a little relieved my Abash-

ment, and as Wine had now formewhat opened my Heart, I very freely acknowledged the Rob-

bery, but acquainted him that he had been mifin-

formed as to the Sum taken, which was little

6 more than a fifth Part of what he had mentioned." " I am forry for it with all my Heart" quoth

he, " and I wish thee better Success another "Time. Tho' if you will take my Advice,

ec you shall have no Occasion to run any Such 66 Rifque. Here," faid he, (taking fome Dice

out of his Pocket " here's the Stuff. Here are the Implements; here are the little Doctors

which cure the Diftempers of the Purfe. Fol-

ce low but my Counsel, and I will shew you a 66 Way "Way to empty the Pocket of a Queer Call " without any Danger of the Nubbing Cheat."

. Nubbing Cheat, cries Partridge, Pray, Sir,

what is that ?'

Why that, Sir,' fays the Stranger, is a Cant · Phrase for the Gallows; for as Gamesters differ

6 little from Highwaymen in their Morals, fo do

6 they very much resemble them in their Lan-

e guage.

We had now each drank our Bottle, when Mr. Watfon faid, the Board was fitting, and 6 that he must attend, earnestly pressing me, at the fame Time, to go with him and try my Fortune. I answered, he knew that was at present out of my Power, as I had informed him of the Emptiness of my Pocket. To say the Truth, I doubted not, from his many frong Expressions of Friendship, but that he would offer to lend me a small Sum for that Purpose; but he answered, " Never mind that, Man, " e'en boldly run a Levant;" (Partridge was going to enquire the Meaning of that Word; but Fones Ropped his Mouth ;) " but be circumfpect " as to the Man. I will tip you the proper Per-66 fon, which may be necessary, as you do not

" Cull from a Queer one." The Bill was now brought, when Watfon paid his Share, and was departing. I reminded

66 know the Town, nor can diffinguish a Rum

him, not without blufhing, of my having no Money.' He answered," That fignifies nothing,

66 fcore it behind the Door, or make a bold Brush, " and take no Notice --- Or --- flay, fays he, I " will go down Stairs first, and then do you take

" up my Money, and score the whole Reckon-

ing at the Bar, and I will wait for you at the 66 Corner. "Corner." I expressed some Dislike at this, and hinted my Expectations that he would have

deposited the whole; but he swore he had not

another Sixpence in his Pocket.

. He then went down, and I was prevailed on to take up the Money and follow him, which I 6 did close enough to hear him tell the Drawer the Reckoning was upon the Table. Drawer passed by me up Stairs; but I made

fuch Haste into the Street, that I heard nothing of his Disappointment, nor did I mention a

Syllable at the Bar, according to my Instruc-

tions.

We now went directly to the Gaming Table, where Mr. Watfon to my Surprize, pulled out a large Sum of Money, and placed it before him, as did many others; all of them, no doubt, confidering their own Heaps as fo many decoy Birds, which were to entice and draw

over the Heaps of their Neighbours. · Here it would be tedious to relate all the Freaks which Fortune, or rather the Dice, played in this her Temple. Mountains of Gold were in a few Moments reduced to nothing at one Part of the Table, and rose as fuddenly in another. The rich grew in a Moment poor, and the Poor as fuddenly became rich; fo that it feemed a Philosopher could no where have fo well instructed his Pupils in the · Contempt of Riches, at least he could no where have better inculcated the Incertainty of their

· Duration.

For my own Part, after having confiderably improved my small Estate, I at last entirely demolifhed it. Mr. Watson too, after much Vas riety of Luck, rose from the Table in some

6 had

Heat, and declared he had loft a cool Hundred, and would play no longer. Then coming up to me, he asked me to return with him to the Tavern; but I positively refused, saying, I would not bring myself a second Time into such a Dilemma, and especially as he had lost all his Money, and was now in my own Condition.' "Pooh," says he, "I have just bore rowed a couple of Guineas of a Friend; and one of them is at your Service." He immediately put one of them into my Hand, and I no longer resisted his Inclination.

I was at first a little shocked at returning to the same House whence we had departed in so unhandsome a Manner; but when the Drawer, with very civil Address, told us, "he believed we had forgot to pay our Reckoning," I became perfectly easy, and very readily gave him a Guinea, bid him pay himself, and acquiesced in the unjust Charge which had been laid on my Memory.

6 Mr. Watson now bespoke the most extrava6 gant Supper he could well think of, and tho'
6 he had contented himself with simple Claret
6 before, nothing now but the most precious

6 Burgundy would ferve his Purpose.

Our Company was foon encreased by the Addition of several Gentlemen from the Gaming Table; most of whom, as I afterwards found, came not to the Tavern to drink, but in the Way of Business: for the true Gamesters pretended to be ill, and refused their Glass, while they plied heartily two young Fellows, who were to be afterwards pillaged, as indeed they were without Mercy. Of this Plunder I

had the good Fortune to be a Sharer, tho' I was

not yet let into the Secret.

There was one remarkable Accident attended this Tavern Play; for the Money, by Degrees, totally disappeared, so that the at the Beginning the Table was half covered with Gold, e yet before the Play ended, which it did not till - the next Day, being Sunday, at Noon, there was scarce a single Guinea to be seen on the

Table; and this was the stranger, as every

Ferson present except myself declared he had 6 loft; and what was become of the Money, unless the Devil himself carried it away, is dif-

ficult to determine.'

Most certainly he did,' fays Partridge, ' for evil Spirits can carry away any thing without being feen, tho' there were never fo many Folk in the Room; and I should not have been furprized if he had carried away all the Company of a fet of wicked Wretches, who were at play in Sermon-time. And I could tell you a true Story, if I would, where the Devil took a Man out of Bed from another Man's Wife, and carried him away through the Key-hole of the Door. I've seen the very House where it was done, and no Body hath lived in it thefe thirty Years.'

Tho' Jones was a little offended by the Impertinence of Partridge, he could not however avoid fmiling at his Simplicity. The Stranger did the fame, and then proceeded with his Story, as will

be feen in the next Chapter.

CHAP

the company of the co

In which the foregoing Story is farther continued.

MY Fellow Collegiate had now entered me in a new Scene of Life. I foon became acquainted with the whole Fraternity of Sharpers, and was let into their Secrets mean into the Knowledge of those gross Cheats which are proper to impose upon the raw and unexperienced: For there are fome Tricks of a 6 finer Kind, which are known only to a few of the Gang, who are at the Head of their Profesfion; a Degree of Honour beyond my Expec-' tation; for Drink, to which I was immodee rately addicted, and the natural Warmth of my Paffions, prevented me from arriving at any great Success in an Art, which requires as much Coolness as the most austere School of Philo-6 fophy.

Mr. Watson, with whom I now lived in the closest Amity, had unluckily the former Failing to a very great Excess; so that instead of making a Fortune by his Profession, as some others did, he was alternately rich and poor, and was often obliged to surrender to his cooler Friends over a Bottle which they never tasted, that Plunder that he had taken from Culls at

6 the publick Table

However, we both made a Shift to pick up
an uncomfortable Livelihood, and for two Years
I continued of the Calling, during which Time
I tasted all the Varieties of Fortune; sometimes
flourishing in Affluence, and at others being
obliged to struggle with almost incredible Diffi-

To-morrow reduced to the coarfest and most homely Fare. My fine Clothes being often on my Back in the Evening, and at the Pawnshop

" my Back in the Evening, and at the Pawnshop the next Morning. One Night as I was returning Pennyless from the Gaming-table, I observed a very great Diffurbance, and a large Mob gathered together in the Street. As I was in no Danger from Pick-pockets, I ventured into the Croud, where, upon Enquiry, I found that a Man had been robbed and very ill used by some Ruffians. The wounded Man appeared very bloody, and feemed scarce able to support himself on his Legs. As I had not therefore been deprived of my Humanity by my prefent Life aud Converfation, tho' they had left me very little of either Honesty or Shame, I immediately offered my Affistance to the unhappy Person, who thankfully accepted it, and putting himself under my Conduct, begged me to convey him to fome Tavern, where he might fend for a Surgeon, being, as he faid, faint with Lofs of Blood. · He seemed indeed highly pleased at finding one who appeared in the Dress of a Gentleman: For as to all the rest of the Company present, their Outfide was fuch that he could not wifely

for place any Confidence in them.
I took the poor Man by the Arm, and led him to the Tavern where we kept our Rendezvous, as it happened to be the nearest at Hand.
A Surgeon happening luckily to be in the

House, immediately attended, and applied himfelf to dreffing his Wounds, which I had the
Pleasure to hear were not likely to be mortal.

6 The

'The Surgeon having very expeditiously and dextrously finished his Business, began to enquire in what Part of the Town the wounded Man lodged; who answered, "That he was come to Town that very Morning; that his Horse was at an Inn in Piccadilly, and that he had no other Lodging, and very little or no Acquaintance in Town."

This Surgeon, whose Name I have forgot, tho' I remember it began with an R, had the first Character in his Profession, and was Serjeant-Surgeon to the King. He had moreover many good Qualities, and was a very generous, good-natured Man, and ready to do any Service to his Fellow-Creatures. He offered his Patient the Use of his Chariot to carry him to his Inn, and at the same Time whispered in his Ear, That if he wanted any Money, he would fur-

" nish him,"
The poor Man was not now capable of returning Thanks for this generous Offer: For having had his Eyes for some Time stedfastly on me, he threw himself back in his Chair, crying, O, my Son! my Son! and then fainted away.

Many of the People present imagined this Accident had happened through his Loss of Blood; but I, who at the same Time began to recollect the Features of my Father, was now confirmed in my Suspicion, and satisfied that it was he himself who appeared before me. I presently ran to him, raised him in my Arms, and kissed his cold Lips with the utmost Eagerness. Here I must draw a Curtain over a Scene which I cannot describe: For though I did not lose my Being, as my Father for a while did,

my Senses were however so overpowered with Affright and Surprize, that I am a Stranger to

what past during some Minutes, and indeed till my Father had again recovered from his Swoon,

and I found myfelf in his Arms, both tenderly

embracing each other, while the Tears trickled

a-pace down the Cheeks of each of us..

' Most of those present seemed affected by this Scene, which we, who might be confidered as the Actors in it, were defirous of removing from the Eyes of all Spectators, as fast as we could; 6 my Father therefore accepted the kind Offer of

the Surgeon's Chariot, and I attended him in it to his Inn.

When we were alone together, he gently upbraided me with having neglected to write to him during fo long a Time, but entirely 6 omitted the Mention of that Crime which had 6 occasioned it. He then informed me of my Mother's Death, and infifted on my returning home with him, faying, "That he had long " fuffered the greatest Anxiety on my Account; that he knew not whether he had most feared my Death or wished it; fince he had so many " more dreadful Apprehensions for me. At last " he faid, a neighbouring Gentleman, who had " just recovered a Son from the same Place, in-66 formed him where I was, and that to reclaim me from this Course of Life, was the sole Cause " of his Journey to London." He thanked Heaven he had fucceeded fo far as to find me out by · Means of an Accident which had like to have * proved fatal to him; and had the Pleafure to think he partly owed his Prefervation to my Humanity, with which he profest himself to be o more delighted than he fhould have been with

Ch. 13. a FOUNDLING.

263

' my filial Piety, if I had known that the Object

of all my Care was my own Father.

'Vice had not fo depraved my Heart, as to excite in it an Infenfibility of fo much paternal Affection, tho' fo unworthily bestowed. I

prefently promifed to obey his Commands in
 my Return home with him, as foon as he was

able to travel, which indeed he was in a very

few Days, by the Affistance of that excellent

· Surgeon who had undertaken his Cure. 'The Day preceding my Father's Journey. (before which Time I scarce ever left him) I went to take my Leave of some of my most in-* timate Acquaintance, particularly of Mr. Watfon, who diffuaded me from burying myfelf, as he called it, out of a simple Compliance with ' the fond Defires of a foolish old Fellow. Such Solicitations, however, had no Effect, and I once more faw my own Home. My Father ' now greatly folicited me to think of Marriage; but my Inclinations were utterly averse to any fuch Thoughts. I had tafted of Love already, and perhaps you know the extravagant Excesses of that most tender and most violent Passion.' Here the old Gentleman paufed, and looked earnestly at Jones; whose Countenance within a Minute's Space displayed the Extremities of both Red and White. Upon which the old Man, without making any Observations, renewed his

Being now provided with all the Necessaries
of Life, I betook myself once again to Study, and
that with a more inordinate Application than I

had ever done formerly. The Books which now employed my Time folely were those, as

well ancient as modern, which treat of true

Narrative.

Philosophy, a Word which is by many thought

to be the Subject only of Farce and Ridicule. I now read over the Works of Ariflotle and

Plato, with the rest of those inestimable Trea-

fures which ancient Greece had bequeathed to

the World.

'These Authors, tho' they instructed me in on Science by which Men may promise to

themselves to acquire the least Riches, or world-

' ly Power, taught me, however, the Art of de-

fpifing the highest Acquisitions of both. They
 elevate the Mind, and steel and harden it against

the capricious Invasions of Fortune. They

one only instruct in the Knowledge of Wisdom,

but confirm Men in her Habits, and demon-

ftrate plainly, that this must be our Guide, if we propose ever to arrive at the greatest worldly

Happiness; or to defend ourselves with any

tolerable Security against the Misery which

every where furrounds and invests us.

'To this I added another Study, compared to which all the Philosophy taught by the wifest

Heathens is little better than a Dream, and is

indeed as full of Vanity as the filliest Jester ever pleased to represent it. This is that divine

Wisdom which is alone to be found in the Holy

Scriptures: For they impart to us the Know-

e ledge and Affurance of Things much more

worthy our Attention, than all which this World can offer to our Acceptance; of Things

which Heaven itself hath condescended to re-

veal to us, and to the smallest Knowledge of

which the highest human Wit unaffisted could never ascend. I began now to think all the

Time I had fpent with the best Heathen Wri-

e ters, was little more than Labour lost: For

how-

however pleasant and delightful their Leffons may be, or however adequate to the right Ree gulation of our Conduct with Respect to this World only; yet when compared with the Glory revealed in Scripture, their highest Do-" cuments will appear as trifling, and of as little Confequence as the Rules by which Children e regulate their childish little Games and Pastime. True it is, that Philosophy makes us wifer, but 6 Christianity makes us better Men. Philosophy elevates and steels the Mind, Christianity foftens and sweetens it. The Former makes us the 6 Objects of human Admiration, the Latter of Divine Love. That insures us a temporal, but 6 this an eternal Happiness .- But I am afraid I f tire you with my Rhapfody.'

' Not at all,' cries Partridge; ' Lud forbid we

6 should be tired with good Things.'

"I had spent,' continued the Stranger, about four Years in the most delightful Manner to myself, totally given up to Contemplation, and entirely unembaraffed with the Affairs of the World, when I loft the best of Fathers, and one whom I so entirely loved, that my Grief at his Loss exceeds all Description. abandoned my Books, and gave myfelf up for a whole Month to the Efforts of Melancholy and Despair. Time, however, the best Physician of the Mind, at length brought me Relief." Ay, ay, Tempus edax Rerum,' faid Partridge. I then,' continued the Stranger, betook myfelf again to my former Studies, which I may fay perfected my Cure: For Philosophy and Re-6 ligion may be called the Exercises of the Mind, and when this is disordered they are as wholefome as Exercise can be to a distempered Body. Vor. II. & They

- They do indeed produce fimilar Effects with
- Exercise: For they strengthen and confirm the
- Mind; till Man becomes, in the noble Strain of Horace,
 - · Fortis, & in seipso totus teres atque rotundus,
 - Externi ne quid valeat per læve morari:
 - 6 In quem manca ruit semper Fortuna.-*

Here Jones smiled at some Conceit which intruded itself into his Imagination; but the Stranger, I believe, perceived it not, and proceeded thus.

I believe, perceived it not, and proceeded thus.

My Circumstances were now greatly altered,
by the Death of that best of Men: For my

Brother, who was now become Master of the

House, differed so widely from me in his Incli-

nations, and our Pursuits in Life had been so

very various, that we were the worst of Com-

pany to each other; but what made our living together still more disagreeable, was the little

Harmony which could subsist between the few

who reforted to me, and the numerous Train

of Sportsmen who often attended my Brother

from the Field to the Table: For fuch Fellows,

besides the Noise and Nonsense with which they

e persecute the Ears of sober Men, endeavour al-

ways to attack them with Affront and Con-

tempt. This was fo much the Cafe, that nei-

* ther I myself, nor my Friends, could ever sit

down to a Meal with them, without being

streated with Derision, because we were unac-

quainted with the Phrases of Sportsmen. For

Men of true Learning, and almost universal

Wen of the Learning, and amort universe

DISCHE THE COL

Mr. FRANCIS.

6 Know-

^{**} Firm in himfelf, who on himfelf relies,
Polish'd and round, who runs his proper Course,
And breaks Misfortunes with superior Force.

Knowledge, always compassionate the Ignorance of others: but Fellows who excel in some little, low, contemptible Art, are always certain to despise those who are unacquainted with that Art.

' In short, we soon separated, and I went by the Advice of a Physician to drink the Bath Waters: For my violent Affliction, added to a fedentary Life, had thrown me into a kind of paralytic Disorder, for which those Waters are accounted an almost certain Cure. The second Day after my Arrival, as I was walking by the River, the Sun shone so intensely hot (tho' it was early in the Year) that I retired to the Shelter of fome Willows, and fat down by the River-fide. Here I had not been feated long before I heard a Person on the other Side the Wil-6 lows, fighing and bemoaning himfelf bitterly. On a sudden, having uttered a most impious Oath, he cried, "I am refolved to bear it no " longer," and directly threw himself into the Water. I immediately started, and ran towards the Place, calling at the fame Time as loudly as I could for Affistance. An Angler happened 6 luckily to be a fishing a little below me, tho? ' fome very high Sedge had hid him from my Sight. He immediately came up, and both of us together, not without fome Hazard of our Lives, drew the Body to the Shore. At first we perceived no Sign of Life remaining; but having held the Body up by the Heels (for we foon had Affistance enough) it discharged a vast Quantity of Water at the Mouth, and at length began to discover some Symptoms of Breathing, and a little afterwards to move both its Hands and its Legs.

An Apothecary, who happened to be present among others, advised that the Body, which feemed now to have pretty well emptied itself of Water, and which began to have many convultive Motions, should be directly taken up, and carried into a warm Bed. This was accordingly performed, the Apothecary and myself attending.

As we were going towards an Inn, for we knew not the Man's Lodgings, luckily a Woman met us, who, after fome violent Screaming, told us, that the Gentleman lodged at her

House.

When I had feen the Man fafely deposited there, I left him to the Care of the Apothecary, who, I suppose, used all the right Methods with him; for the next Morning I heard he had

perfectly recovered his Senses.

I then went to visit him, intending to search out, as well as I could, the Cause of his having attempted so desperate an Act, and to prevent, as far as I was able, his pursuing such wicked Intentions for the future. I was no sooner admitted into his Chamber, than we both instantive ly knew each other; for who should this Person be, but my good Friend Mr. Watson! Here I will not trouble you with what past at our first Interview: For I would avoid Prolixity as much as possible. Pray let us hear all, cries Partridge, I want mightily to know what brought him to Bath.

Wou shalf hear every Thing material, anfwered the Stranger; and then proceeded to relate what we shall proceed to write, after we have given a short breathing Time to both ourselves

and the Reader.

01

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

In which the Man of the Hill concludes his History.

R. Watson,' continued the Stranger, very freely acquainted me, that the unhappy Situation of his Circumstances, occasioned by a Tide of Ill-luck, had in a Manner forced

him to a Resolution of destroying himself. I now began to argue very feriously with 6 him, in Opposition to this Heathenish, or indeed Diabolical Principle of the Lawfulness of Self-Murder; and faid every Thing which occurred to me on the Subject; but to my great Concern, it seemed to have very little Effect on him. He seemed not at all to repent of what he had done, and gave me Reason to fear, he would foon make a fecond Attempt of the like

6 horrible Kind. When I had finished my Discourse, instead of endeavouring to answer my Arguments; he I looked me stedsastly in the Face, and with a

Smile faid, "You are strangely altered, my good Friend, fince I remember you. I quef-

tion whether any of our Bishops could make a better Argument against Suicide than you have

entertained me with; but unless you can find Somebody who will lend me a cool Hundred, I

must either hang, or drown, or starve; and in my Opinion the last Death is the most terrible

of the three." I answered him very gravely, that I was indeed altered fince I had feen him laft. That I 6 had found Leisure to look into my Follies, and

N 3

to repent of them. I then advised him to purfue the same Steps; and at last concluded with an Assurance, that I myself would lend him a hundred Pound, if it would be of any Service to his Assurance, and he would not put it into the Power of a Die to deprive him as it.

to his Affairs, and he would not put it into the Power of a Die to deprive him of it.

'Mr Watson, who seemed almost composed in Slumber by the former Part of my Discourse, was roused by the latter. He seized my Hand eagerly, gave me a thousand Thanks, and declared I was a Friend indeed; adding, that he hoped I had a better Opinion of him, than to imagine he had profited so little by Experience, as to put any Confidence in those damned Dice, which had so often deceived him. "No, no," cries he, "let me but once handsomely be set up again, and if ever Fortune makes a broken Merchant of me asterwards, I will forgive her."

I very well understood the Language of setting up, and broken Merchant. I therefore said to him with a very grave Face, Mr. Watson, you must endeavour to find out some Business, or Employment, by which you may procure yourself a Livelihood; and I promise you, could I see any Probability of being repaid hereaster, I would advance a much larger Sum than what you have mentioned, to equip you in any sair and honourable Calling; but as to Gaming, besides the Baseness and Wickedness of making it a Profession, you are really, to my own Knowledge, unfit sor it, and it will end in your certain Ruin.

"Why now, that's ftrange," answered he, ineither you, nor any of my Friends, would ever allow me to know any thing of the Mat-

ter,

ter, and yet, I believe I am as good a Hand at every Game as any of you all; and I heartily

with I was to play with you only for your whole

Fortune; I should desire no better Sport, and Would let you name your Game into the

Bargain: But come, my dear Boy, have you

" the Hundred in your Pocket?"

I answered, I had only a Bill for 50 l. which I delivered him, and promised to bring him the

reft next Morning; and after giving him a lit-

tle more Advice, took my Leave.

I was indeed better than my Word: For I returned to him that very Afternoon. When I

entered the Room, I found him fitting up in his Bed at Cards with a notorious Gamester. This

Sight, you will imagine, shocked me not a lit-

tle; to which I may add the Mortification of feeing my Bill delivered by him to his Antago-

nift, and thirty Guineas only given in Exchange

for it.

'The other Gamester presently quitted the Room, and then Watson declared he was assamed to see me; 'but, says he, I find Luck runs so damnably against me, that I will resolve to leave off Play for ever. I have thought of the kind Proposal you made me ever since, and I promise you there shall be no

" ever fince, and I promite you there man be no fault in me, if I do not put it in Execu-

Though I had no great Faith in his Promises,
I produced him the Remainder of the Hundred
in consequence of my own; for which he gave

me a Note, which was all I ever expected to

fee in Return for my Money.

We were prevented from any further Difcourse at present, by the Arrival of the Apo-N 4 thecary; thecary; who with much Joy in his Countenance, and without even asking his Patient how
he did, proclaimed there was great News arrived in a Letter to himself, which he said
would shortly be publick, "That the Duke
of Monmouth was landed in the West with a
vast Army of Dutch; and that another vast
Fleet hovered over the Coast of Norfolk, and
was to make a Descent there, in order to savour
the Duke's Enterprize with a Diversion on that
Side:"

This Apothecary was one of the greatest Politicians of his Time. He was more delighted
with the most paultry Packet, than with the
best Patient; and the highest Joy he was capable of, he received from having a Piece of News
in his Possession an Hour or two sooner than
any other Person in the Town. His Advices,
however, were seldom authentic; for he would
fwallow almost any thing as a Truth, a Humour which many made use of to impose upon
him.

Thus it happened with what he at present communicated; for it was known within a short Time afterwards, that the Duke was really

s landed; but that his Army confifted only of a few Attendants; and as to the Divertion in

Norfolk, it was entirely false.

The Apothecary staid no longer in the Room than while he acquainted us with his News; and then, without saying a Syllable to his Patient on any other Subject, departed to spread his Adviser III and the Total Control of the Adviser III and the Total Control of the Adviser III are the Total Control of the Adviser III and the Total Control of the Adviser III are the Total Control of the Adviser III are the Total Control of the Adviser III are the Total Control of the III and III are the III are t

his Advices all over the Town.

Events of this Nature in the Public are generally apt to eclipse all private Concerns. Our Discourse, therefore, now became entirely political.

Computation in actions, with the to

Ch. 14. FOUNDLING.

e tical. For my own Part, I had been for fome Time very feriously affected with the Danger to which the Protestant Religion was so visibly exoposed, under a Popish Prince; and thought the Apprehension of it alone sufficient to justify that Insurrection: For no real Security can ever be found against the perfecuting Spirit of Popery, when armed with Power, except the depriving it of that Power, as woeful Experience prefentby shewed. You know how King James be-6 haved after getting the better of this Attempt; how little he valued either his Royal Word, or Coronation-Oath, or the Liberties and Rights of his People. But all had not the Sense to foresee this at first; and therefore the Duke of 6 Monmouth was weakly supported; yet all could feel when the Evil came upon them; and therefore all united, at last, to drive out that King, against whose Exclusion a great Party among us 6 had fo warmly contended, during the Reign of his Brother, and for whom they now fought 6 with fuch Zeal and Affection.'

What you fay, interrupted Jones, is very true; and it has often struck me, as the most wonderful Thing I ever read of in History, that 6 fo foon after this convincing Experience, which brought our whole Nation to join fo unanimouf-Iy in expelling King James, for the Preservation of our Religion and Liberties, there should be a Party among us mad enough to defire the placing his Family again on the Throne. You are not in Earnest!' answered the old Man; ' there can be no fuch Party. As bad an Opinion as I have of Markind, I cannot believe them infatuated to fuch a Degree! There may be some hot-headed Papists led by their Priests 6 to engage in this desperate Cause, and think it a 5 Holy War; but that Protestants, that are Members of the Church of England, should be such Apostates, such Felos de se, I cannot believe it; no, no, young Man, unacquainted as I am with what has past in the World for these last thirty Years, I cannot be so imposed upon as to credit 6 fo foolish a Tale: But I see you have a Mind 6 to sport with my Ignorance.' 6 Can it be post-" fible,' replied Jones, " that you have lived fo much out of the World as not to know, that during that Time there have been two Rebelblions in favour of the Son of King James, one of which is now actually raging in the very ' Heart of the Kingdom?' At these Words the old Gentleman started up, and, in a most solemn Tone of Voice, conjured Jones by his Maker to tell him, if what he faid was really true: Which the other as folemnly affirming, he walked feveral Turns about the Room, in a profound Silence, then cried, then laughed, and, at last, fell down on his Knees, and bleffed God, in a loud Thankfgiving Prayer, for having delivered him from all Society with Human Nature, which could be capable of fuch monfirous Extravagances. After which, being reminded by Jones that he had broke off his Story, he refumed it again in this Man-

"As Mankind, in the Days I was speaking of, was not yet arrived to that Pitch of Madness which I find they are capable of now, and which, to be sure, I have only escaped by living alone, and at a Distance from the Contagion, there was a considerable Rising in savour of Monmouth; and my Principles strongly inclining me to take the same Part, I determined to join him; and Mr. Watson, from different Motives concurring in the same Resolution (for the Spirit of a Gamester will carry a Man as far upon such an Occasion as the Spirit of Pa-

' triotism,) we soon provided ourselves with all · Necessaries, and went to the Duke at Bridges water.

The unfortunate Event of this Enterprize you are, I conclude, as well acquainted with as myfelf. I escaped, together with Mr. Watson, from the Battle at Sedgemore, in which Action I received a slight Wound. We rode near forty Miles together on the Exeter Road, and then abandoning our Horses, scrambled as well as we could through the Fields and Bye-Roads, till we arrived at a little wild Hut on a Com-6 mon, where a poor old Woman took all the

· Care of us she could, and dressed my Wound

with Salve, which quickly healed it.'

Pray, Sir, where was the Wound,' fays Par-The Stranger fatisfied him it was in his Arm, and then continued his Narrative. 'Here, Sir, faid he, Mr. Watson left me the next Morning, in order, as he pretended, to get us fome Provision from the Town of Cullumpton; but-can I relate it? or can you believe it?-This Mr. Watson, this Friend, this base, barbarous, treacherous Villain, betrayed me to a · Party of Horse belonging to King James, and, at his Return, delivered me into their Hands.

"The Soldiers, being fix in Number, had now feized me, and were conducting me to Taunton Goal; but neither my present Situation, nor the Apprehensions of what might happen to " me, were half so irksome to my Mind, as the · Company of my false Friend, who, having furrendered himself, was likewise considered as a Prisoner, tho' he was better treated, as being

to make his Peace at my Expence. He at first endeavoured to excuse his Treachery; but when he received nothing but Scorn and Upbraiding

from me, he foon changed his Note, abused

me as the most atrocious and malicious Rebel, and laid all his own Guilt to my Charge, who, as he declared, had solicited, and even threatened him, to make him take up Arms against his gracious, as well as lawful Sovereign.

This false Evidence, (for, in Reality, he had been much the forwarder of the two) stung me to the Quick, and raised an Indignation scarce conceivable by those who have not felt it. However, Fortune at length took Pity on me; for as we were got a little beyond Wellington, in a narrow Lane, my Guards received a false Alarm, that near fifty of the Enemy were at hand, upon which they shifted for themselves, and lest me and my Betrayer to do the same. That Villain immediately ran from me, and I am glad he did, or I should have certainly endeavoured, though I had no Arms, to have executed Vengeance on his Baseness.

I was now once more at Liberty, and immediately withdrawing from the Highway into the Fields, I travelled on, scarce knowing which Way I went, and making it my chief Care to avoid all public Roads, and all Towns, nay, even the most homely Houses; for I imagined every human Creature whom I saw, defirous of

betraying me.

At last, after rambling several Days about the Country, during which the Fields afforded me the same Bed, and the same Food, which Nature bestows on our Savage Brothers of the Creation, I at length arrived at this Place, where the Solitude and Wildness of the Country invited me to fix my Abode. The first Person with whom I took up my Habitation was the Mother of this old Woman, with whom I remained concealed, till the News of the glorious Revolution put an End to all my Appre-

Ch. 15. a FOUNDLING. 277

Apprehensions of Danger, and gave me an Opportunity of once more visiting my own Home,
and of enquiring a little into my Affairs, which
I soon settled as agreeably to my Brother as to
myself; having resigned every Thing to him,
for which he paid me the Sum of a thousand
Pounds, and settled on me an Appuity for Life.

Pounds, and settled on me an Annuity for Life.
 His Behaviour in this last Instance, as in all

others, was felfish and ungenerous. I could not look on him as my Friend, nor indeed did

he defire that I should; so I presently took my Leave of him, as well as of my other Ac-

quaintance; and from that Day to this my

6 History is little better than a Blank.' ' And is it possible, Sir,' said Jones, ' that you can have refided here, from that Day to this?' O no, Sir,' answered the Gentleman, 'I have been a great Traveller, and there are few Parts of Europe with which I am not acquainted.' I have not, Sir,' cried Jones, ' the Assurance to salk it of you now. Indeed it would be cruel, after fo much Breath as you have already spent. But you will give me Leave to wish for some further Opportunity of hearing the excellent 6 Observations, which a Man of your Sense and Knowledge of the World must have made in 6 fo long a Course of Travels.' 6 Indeed, young Gentleman,' answered the Stranger, 'I will endeavour to fatisfy your Curiofity on this Head blikewise, as far as I am able.' Fones attempted fresh Apologies, but was prevented; and while he and Partridge fat with greedy and impatient Ears, the Stranger proceeded as in the next Chapter.

CHAP. XV.

A brief History of Europe. And a curious Difcourse between Mr. Jones and the Man of the Hill.

IN Italy the Landlords are very filent. In France they are more talkative, but yet civil.

278

6 civil. In Germany and Holland they are gene-6 rally very impertinent. And as for their Hoe nesty, I believe it is pretty equal in all those · Countries. The Laquais à Louange are sure to lose no Opportunity of cheating you: And as for the Postilions, I think they are pretty much alike all the World over. These, Sir, are the · Observations on Men which I made in my 6 Travels; for these were the only Men I ever conversed with. My Defign, when I went e abroad, was to divert myfelf by feeing the wondrous Variety of Prospects, Beasts, Birds, Fishes, Insects, and Vegetables, with which God has been pleafed to enrich the feveral Parts of this Globe. A Variety, which as it must give great Pleasure to a contemplative Beholder, 6 fo doth it admirably difplay the Power and Wifdom and Goodness of the Creator. Indeed, to fay the Truth, there is but one Work in his whole Creation that doth him any Dishonour, and with that I have long fince avoided holding any Conversation.

'You will pardon me,' cries Jones, ' but I have always imagined, that there is in this very Work you mention, as great Variety as in all the rest; for besides the Difference of Inclina-6 tion, Cuftoms and Climates have, I am told, introduced the utmost Diversity into Human · Nature.' ' Very little indeed,' answered the other; 'those who travel in order to acquaint themselves with the different Manners of Men, might spare themselves much Pains, by going to a Carnival at Venice; for there they will fee at once all which they can discover in the sevee ral Courts of Europe. The fame Hypocrify, the same Fraud; in short, the same Follies and · Vices, dressed in different Habits. In Spain these are equipped with much Gravity; and in taly, and they are more talkalive, but yet GIVID .

Ch. 15. a FOUNDLING.

· Italy, with vast Splendor. In France, a Knave is dreffed like a Fop; and in the Northern

6 Countries, like a Sloven. But Human Nature

is every where the fame, every where the Ob-

e ject of Detestation and Scorn.

6 As for my own Part, I past through all these Nations, as you perhaps may have done through a Croud at a Shew, jostling to get by them, holding my Nose with one Hand, and defending my Pockets with the other, without speaking a Word to any of them, while I was preffing on to fee what I wanted to fee; which, however entertaining it might be in itself, scarce

made me Amends for the Trouble the Company

gave me.' 6 Did not you find fome of the Nations among which you travelled, less troublesome to you than others?' faid Jones. 'O yes,' replied the old Man; ' the Turks were much more tole-' rable to me than the Christians. For they are Men of profound Taciturnity, and never difturb a Stranger with Questions. Now and then ' indeed they bestow a short Curse upon him, or ' spit in his Face as he walks the Streets, but then they have done with him; and a Man may live an Age in their Country without hearing a dozen Words from them. But of all the Peoople I ever faw, Heaven defend me from the French. With their damned Prate and Civili-' ties, and doing the Honour of their Nation to Strangers, (as they are pleafed to call it) but indeed fetting forth their own Vanity; they are ' fo troublesome, that I had infinitely rather pass ' my Life with the Hottentots, than fet my Foot in Paris again. They are a nasty People, but their Nastiness is mostly without; whereas in France, and fome other Nations that I won't name, it is all within, and makes them flink much . much more to my Reason than that of Hotten-

tots does to my Nofe.

Thus, Sir, I have ended the History of my Life; for as to all that Series of Years, during which I have lived retired here, it affords no Variety to entertain you, and may be almost confidered as one Day. The Retirement has been so compleat, that I could hardly have ens joyed a more absolute Solitude in the Deserts of the Thebais, than here in the midst of this populous Kingdom. As I have no Estate, I am plagued with no Tenants or Stewards; my Annuity is paid me pretty regularly, as indeed it ought to be; for it is much less than what I might have expected, in Return for what I gave up. Vifits I admit none; and the old Woman who keeps my House knows, that her Place entirely depends upon her faving me all the Trouble of buying the Things that I want, keeping off all Sollicitation or Business from me, and holding her Tongue whenever I am within hearing. As my Walks are all by Night, I am pretty secure in this wild, unfrequented Place from meeting any Company. Some few Perfons I have met by Chance, and fent them home heartily frighted, as from the Oddness of my Dress and Figure they took me for a Ghost or a Hobgoblin. But what has happened Tonight shews, that even here I cannot be fafe from the Villainy of Men; for without your Affiltance I had not only been robbed, but e very probably murdered.'

Jones thanked the Stranger for the Trouble he had taken in relating his Story, and then expressed some Wonder how he could possibly endure a Life of such Solitude; 'in which,' says he, 'you may well complain of the Want of Variety. Indeed I am astonished how you have filled up, or rather killed, so much of your Time.'

I am not at all furprized,' answered the other, that to one whose Affections and Thoughts are · fixed on the World, my Hours should appear to have wanted Employment in this Place; but there is one fingle Act, for which the whole Life of Man is infinitely too fhort. Time can suffice for the Contemplation and · Worship of that glorious, immortal, and eternal Being, among the Works of whose stupendous Creation, not only this Globe, but even those numberless Luminaries which we may here behold fpangling all the Sky, tho' they should many of them be Suns lighting different Systems of Worlds, may possibly appear but as a few Atoms, opposed to the whole Earth which we ' inhabit ? Can a Man who, by Divine Meditations, is admitted, as it were, into the Converfation of this ineffable, incomprehensible Ma-' jesty, think Days, or Years, or Ages, too long for the Continuance of fo ravishing an Honour? Shall the trifling Amusements, the palling Pleafures, the filly Business of the World, roll away our Hours too swiftly from us; and shall the 4 Pace of Time feem fluggish to a Mind exercised in Studies fo high, fo important, and fo glorious! As no Time is sufficient, so no Place is improper for this great Concern. On what Object can we cast our Eyes, which may not inspire us with Ideas of his Power, of his Wisdom, and of his Goodness? It is not necessary, that the rifing Sun should dart his fiery Glories over the Eastern Horizon; nor that the boisterous Winds fhould rush from their Caverns, and shake the 6 lofty Forest; nor that the opening Clouds should opour their Deluges on the Plains: It is not neceffary, I fay, that any of these should proclaim his Majesty; there is not an Insect, not a Vege-6 table, of so low an Order in the Creation, as not

6 tributes of its great Creator; Marks not only of his Power, but of his Wisdom and Goodness.

Man alone, the King of this Globe, the last and

s greatest Work of the Supreme Being, below the Sun; Man alone hath basely dishonoured his

own Nature, and by Dishonesty, Cruelty, Ingratitude, and Treachery, hath called his Maker's

Goodness in Question, by puzzling us to account

how a benevolent Being should form so foolish, ' and fo vile an Animal. Yet this is the Being

from whose Conversation you think, I suppose,

that I have been unfortunately restrained; and

without whose bleffed Society, Life, in your

Dpinion, must be tedious and infipid.'

' In the former Part of what you faid,' replied Jones, 'I most heartily and readily concur; but I believe, as well as hope, that the Abhorrence which you express for Mankind, in the Conclufion, is much too general. Indeed you here fall into an Error, which, in my little Experience, I have observed to be a very common one, by taking the Character of Mankind from the worst and basest among them; whereas indeed, as an excellent Writer observes, nothing should be efteemed as characteristical of a Species, but what is to be found among the best and most berfect Individuals of that Species. This Error, I believe, is generally committed by those who, from Want of proper Caution in the Choice of their Friends and Acquaintance, have fuffered Injuries from bad and worthless Men; two or 6 three Instances of which are very unjustly charged on all Human Nature.'

I think I had Experience enough of it,' anfwered the other. ' My first Mistress, and my first Friend, betrayed me in the basest Manner,

and in Matters which threatened to be of the

Workt

Ch. 15. a FOUNDLING.

worst of Consequences, even to bring me to a

fhameful Death. But you will pardon me,' cries Jones, ' if I desire you to reslect who that Mistress, and who that Friend were. What better, my good Sir, could be expected in Love derived from the · Stews, or in Friendship first produced and nou-' rished at the Gaming-Table! To take the Characters of Women from the former Instance, or of Men from the latter, would be as unjust as to affert, that Air is a naufeous and unwhole-. fome Element, because we find it so in a Jakes. "I have lived but a short Time in the World, and

Friendship, and Women of the highest Love.' · Alas! young Man,' answered the Stranger, " you have lived, you confess, but a very short Time in the World; I was somewhat older than

wet have known Men worthy of the highest

you when I was of the fame Opinion.2 "You might have remained fo still,' replies Jones, ' if you had not been unfortunate, I will venture to fay incautious, in the placing your Affections. If there was indeed much more Wickedness in the World than there is, it would not prove fuch general Affertions against human Nature, fince much of this arrives by ' mere Accident, and many a Man who commits Evil, is not totally bad and corrupt in his Heart. In Truth, none feem to have any Title to affert human Nature to be necessarily and univer-' fally evil, but those whose own Minds afford them one Instance of this natural Depravity; which is not, I am convinced, your Cafe.' ' And fuch,' faid the Stranger, ' will be always the most backward to affert any such

'Thing. Knaves will no more endeavour to s perfuade us of the Baseness of Mankind, than a Highwayman will inform you that there are - Thieves

Thieves on the Road. This would indeed be a Method to put you on your Guard, and to defeat their own Purposes. For which Reason tho' Knaves, as I remember, are very apt to abuse particular Persons; yet they never cast any Reflection on Human Nature in general.' The old Gentleman spoke this so warmly, that as Jones despaired of making a Convert, and was unwilling to offend, he returned no Answer.

The Day now began to fend forth its first Streams of Light, when Jones made an Apology to the Stranger for having staid so long, and perhaps detained him from his Rest. Stranger answered, 'He never wanted Rest less than at prefent; for that Day and Night were indifferent Seasons to him, and that he commonly made use of the former for the Time of his Repose, and of the latter for his Walks and Lucubrations. However,' faid he, ' it is now a most lovely Morning, and if you can bear any longer to be without your own Rest or · Food, I will gladly entertain you with the Sight of fome very fine Prospects, which I believe you have not yet feen.'

Jones very readily embraced this Offer, and they immediately fet forward together from the Cottage. As for Partridge, he had fallen into a profound Repose, just as the Stranger had finished his Story; for his Curiofity was fatisfied, and the fubsequent Discourse was not forcible enough in its Operation to conjure down the Charms of Sleep. Fones therefore left him to enjoy his Nap; and as the Reader may perhaps be, at this Season, glad of the same Favour, we will here put an End to the Eighth Book of our History.

THE