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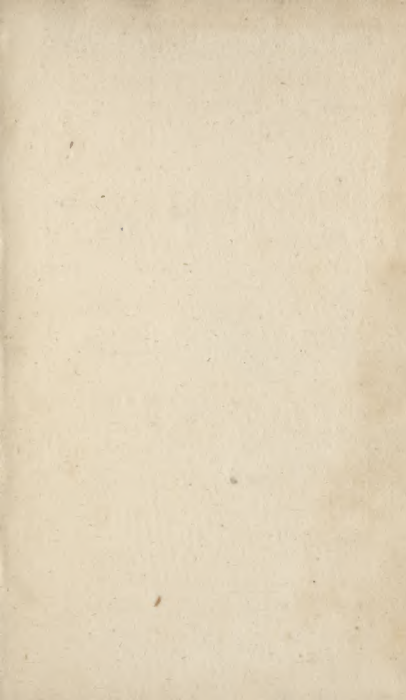
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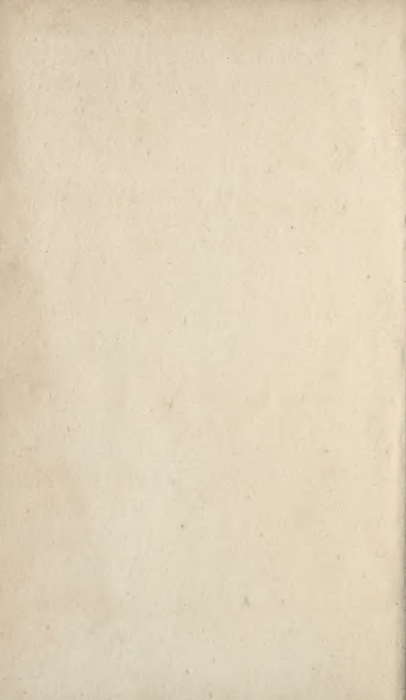


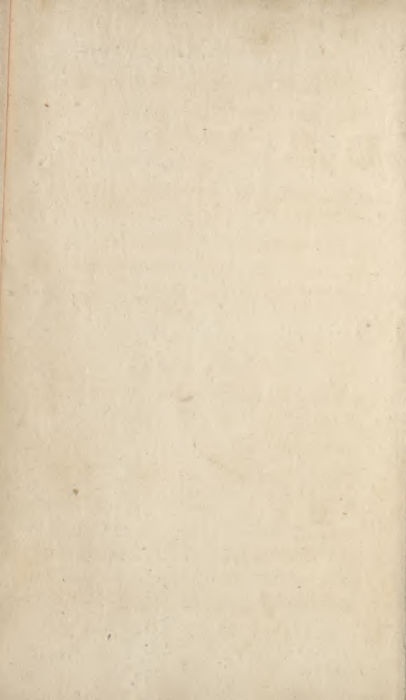
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H. vi. 9.









A
K E Y
TO THE
D R A M A ;
O R,
MEMOIRS, INTRIGUES,
AND
ATCHIEVEMENTS,
Of PERSONAGES, who have been chosen by the
most celebrated POETS, as the fittest Charac-
ters for THEATRICAL REPRESENTATIONS.

CALCULATED
To gratify the PUBLIC, not only with a Circumstantial History
of the PERSONS, and to make the STAGE thereby more in-
telligible and interesting to *Those* who frequent it ; but that
Others, who from a Variety of Causes, have it not in their
Power to enjoy the Representation, may nevertheless peruse
the Plays with a higher Relish, and greater Perspicuity.

V O L. I.

Containing the
Life, Character, and secret History
O F
M A C B E T H.

By A GENTLEMAN,
No professed Author, but a Lover of History, and of
the THEATRE.

L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR, by J. BROWNE, No. 73.
Shoe-Lane, Fleet-Street. 1768.

TO THE
D. R. A. M. A.
MEMOIRS, INTIGUES,
AND
ATCHEVEMENTS

OF THE
LIFE AND
ADVENTURES
OF
THE
HONORABLE
JAMES
O'BRIEN

BY
JAMES
O'BRIEN
ESQ.
OF
THE
BARR



THE
HONORABLE
JAMES
O'BRIEN

BY
JAMES
O'BRIEN
ESQ.

OF THE
BARR
JAMES
O'BRIEN



TO
HER GRACE
THE
Dutcheſs of *Hamilton*, &c.

MADAM,

AT the ſame time that the Author of the following Sheets is very far from thinking they have ſufficient merit to introduce them to the countenance of the reſpectable Name to whom they are humbly dedicated; and that his confined ſituation ren-

D E D I C A T I O N.

dered it impracticable for him to supplicate *Your Grace's* permission; yet he flatters himself, that the considerations which suggested *Your Grace* to him as the properest Personage in *Great Britain* to present them to, may prevail with Your goodness to judge somewhat favourably of his presumption.

THE two most illustrious characters in the performance, are the ancestors of that *noble family*, whose acknowledged eminence could only gain additional lustre by a connection with *Your Grace*.

WHILST the Author was penning the transcendent *virtues* and unequalled *beauty* of EUGENIA! he

DEDICATION.

he could not help thinking of
the Dutcheſs of Hamilton.

WHEN he thought of the fair
Eugenia's having transmitted to
poſterity a progeny, not leſs diſ-
tinguiſhed for patriotic heroiſm,
than for every quality which ren-
ders mankind uſeful and amiable
in ſociety; moſt natural was the
reflection, That the celebrated
Dutcheſs of Hamilton had been
choſen by Providence to perpe-
tuate ſuch a ſucceſſion.

IT was for theſe reaſons, *Ma-*
dam, and for theſe reaſons only,
that he took the liberty to dignify
the opening of his Work (a ſlight
one as it is) with a Name ſo il-
luſtrious: for the accompliſh-

DEDICATION.

ments which compleat *Your Grace's* character, are so universally assented to, as equalled by few, exceeded by none; that he cannot even indulge a vanity of concluding it possible for him to be, with greater admiration and respect than every body else,

M A D A M,

Your Grace's most obedient,

And most humble Servant,

The AUTHOR.

P R E-

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

THE SECOND VOLUME

CONTAINING

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

P R E F A C E.

AS the representation or perusal of Plays, particularly those of the historical kind, although a very rational entertainment, may in many cases misguide the judgment of an inattentive spectator or reader, by substituting implicitly the matter in the play for the genuine history of the times and persons represented; our Author having bestowed a good deal of pains in examining into the secret histories of the *Dramatis Personæ*, especially of those brought upon the stage by the celebrated *Shakespear*, thought he might employ his time worse, than to communicate what materials he had collected from his examinations.

He had begun, and was preparing for the press a particular History of *King Henry VIII.* when a friend made him an offer of the materials which
compose

compose this Volume, on condition that he would give them the first place in his Publication; and as the Tragedy of *Macbeth* is one of those, of the same inimitable Poet, which makes its appearance upon the stage, as often at least, and with as much applause, as any other, he cheerfully agreed to the proposal; and the rather, that few memoirs furnish a series of more daring enterprizes, affecting incidents, amazing intrigues, and profound plots, than those which are to be met with in the secret history before us.

WITH regard to facts, he has strictly adhered to the materials; but as to the language, that being almost obsolete, he has endeavoured to modernize it.

It may be necessary to premise to censorious readers, that the modes of thinking, acting, and writing, some hundred years ago, (especially in the northern parts of this island) not being circumscribed by the same rules of decent policy, by which they have been
since

since improved, it was impossible, without deviating from the originals, to maintain that inoffensive chasteness, with which the memoirs of later ages might be transmitted.

Bellona and *Venus*, how much soever distinct and incompatible are their excitements and operations, appear, in the days of King *Duncan* and *Macbeth*, to have been ruling planets : yet he has endeavoured, as much as in him lay, so to represent facts, that the mind, although it may be *struck*, may be as little as possible *shocked* with what is wonderful ! and without totally suppressing the descriptive circumstances of the several *amours*, he so far has taken liberty with the original, as to purge them of a number of indelicacies ; if notwithstanding of which, some passages may still be objected to, as rather luxuriant, the reader will at the same time perceive, that every irregular promptitude is always censured by some moral reflection.

that improved, it was improved
without the least loss of
to make it the more useful
to the world of letters
might be maintained.

It is not that I have
any thing new to say, but
that I have something to
say, and I have said it
in a manner which I
trust will be found
interesting to the
reader. I have not
written this book
for the purpose of
making a name for
myself, but for the
purpose of making
a name for the
cause which I
have taken up.

A
K E Y
TO THE
LIFE and CHARACTER
O F
MACBETH.

I N the prosecution of this plan, as I shall consider it unnecessary to tire the reader with tedious genealogical deductions, which he may meet with in every general history, and which would render this work too voluminous to answer the purpose for which it is intended; I will leave, therefore, all the ordinary historical occurrences to be found in their proper places, and pursue my design, by entering immediately into those particulars of each character which are the most entertaining, which may best exhibit the geniuses of my objects, and shew the connections and dispositions which induced poets to call them forth, as the most eligible subjects for Theatrical Representations.

B

It

It was in the 11th century, about the time of the expulsion of the *Danes*, and while *Edward* the Confessor reigned in *England*, that *Duncan* VII. reigned in *Scotland*.

Duncan was of too soft and easy a disposition to be at the head of a government divided into a diversity of factions, every one of which making advantage of their monarch's inactivity, laboured to aggrandize their several families, without any sort of regard to the public-weal. *Macbeth*, who was himself of the blood royal, who had more penetration, a quicker understanding, and a genius better suited for enterprizing, than any of his cotemporaries, became soon very conspicuous in this reign. His person was tall, but exactly proportioned; he had a manly countenance, and from his eyes he darted so much of the awful and commanding spirit, as amongst all the other courtiers, seemed to indicate him the fittest for sway. To that manly deportment, which so distinguishingly secured him the respect of men, he could at pleasure accompany it with such a graceful and engaging address towards the ladies, as no less effectually recommended him to them: and as the gentler passions held, at the same time, a large place in his constitution, with those of a more ambitious and daring nature, whilst he commanded the

venc-

veneration of the one sex, he rarely failed of insinuating himself into the approbation of the other. So that, had the natural endowments of his mind and person been somewhat better tempered with the virtues of moderation and justice, and had he reached at the sceptre by no unfair means, as he was perfectly qualified to govern, and possessed every requisite talent to subdue the contentions which, in that reign of indolence, had distracted the people of his country, his name might have been transmitted to posterity with more of the Hero than the Tyrant.

In the same century, and before the re-formations which were accomplished by the good king *Edward*, *England* had in like manner suffered by intestine divisions: and it being from some private memoirs of a noble family of this kingdom (*a*) that I have gathered many of the more genuine and interesting circumstances concerning the transactions, both in *England* and *Scotland*, for that æra, than I have found any where else, so far as these relations shall appear to me to be more beautiful and natural than the accounts of other writers; I will stick pretty closely to them, and, regardless of what critics may say, I shall not blush, when I borrow materials as often as

(*a*) The noble family of *Howards*.

I can see that my design will thereby be improved.

Besides the memoirs already mentioned, accident flung into my hands the remains of some old manuscripts found amongst charters and original papers, in the possession of one of the most ancient families in *North Britain*, the old family of *Cummin*, now *Cumming* of *Altyre*. The authenticity of the manuscripts I do not take upon me to establish, any farther than from the probability which runs naturally through them, and that they represent a more interesting, as well as a much more entertaining review of these times, than is to be collected from the many contradictory opinions of various authors who have hitherto treated of them.

It was in this reign, that *Edmund*, the representative of one of the noblest families in *England*, from the resentment of injustice which he conceived to have been done to himself and family, had abandoned the capital, and betaken himself, with his beloved spouse *Bertha*, to a retirement upon the river *Ribble*, in *Lancashire*, there to enjoy a more solid happiness than he imagined could be found within the more splendid circle of a court. It was in this peaceable retirement, that an accident intervened, which furnishes a most affecting, amusing,

amusing, and distinct account of the intrigues of these days in the palaces of *Scotland*; and it is from that, compared with the manuscripts and other memoirs, that I propose to present the reader with a relation of such circumstances as appear to be consistent, in order to complete the illustration of *Macbeth's* enterprizes, character and reign.

One agreeable morning in the month of *May*, the splendour of the rising sun, shooting forth his beams through the clearest æther that poetic fancy can imagine, inviting the more temperate and sufficiently reposed of the human race, first to glorify the Creator for their preservation, and for the secure enjoyment of that sweet repose they have ~~just~~ arisen from; and next, to *revisit* contemplate the various bounties of nature, just freshened by the vegetating moisture of night, now beginning, with opening foliage, to exult beneath the powerful rays of *Phæbus*: *Edmund*, with his amiable companion, had left their rural habitation, and by reciprocal meditations, felicitated each other, according to their daily custom, upon their undisturbed situation; and to confirm a healthfulness, known only to innocence and sweet retirement, they now stepped forth to breathe the fragrance of the morning air. They pursued an agreeable
 B 3 walk

walk towards the beach on the sea-side, which being here and there overhung by the natural ruins of some shaggy rocks, at the same time diversified and beautified the rural landskip of their delightful abode. The sea was then in a profound calm, and but by a superior clearness and extension, scarcely distinguished itself from the stillest lake. By the now so tranquil borders of that sometimes so noisy and blustering element, this happy pair courted the refreshing breezes, which then skimmed to them from alongst its surface; until the advancing sun, having gathered yet increasing strength, began to convince them of the instability of every human enjoyment, by incommoding them with the warmth of those very beams which had, a very little while ago, been their pleasure and admiration! They therefore looked about them for a sheltering retreat, and were quickly invited to one, under the cover of a shading rock, which was alternately paved with soft moss, adorned with wild and wandering flowers, odoriferous herbs, and variegated shrubs, irregularly nodding over its impending parts. In this shade, invited to sympathetic colloquy,— ‘ O my dear *Edmund*, (began *Bertba*) how much happier are we in this virtuous retirement, than in all the false splendour of a court, where

‘ where ambition, envy, malice and self-
 ‘ interest, formed into base plots, never
 ‘ suffer true pleasure to tranquilize those
 ‘ deluded fools, who there court their own
 ‘ undoing?”—— ‘ The pursuit of man-
 ‘ kind, my beloved *Bertha*, (replied the
 ‘ grave *Edmund*) is as contradictory and
 ‘ absurd, as were the debates of the old
 ‘ philosophers about their supreme good !
 ‘ One places it in pleasure, another in
 ‘ health, a third in dignities, and a fourth
 ‘ in power ! Thus every one gives it chase
 ‘ by different, yet by devious ways, while
 ‘ none come in with the quarry, all having
 ‘ mistaken the scent ; consulting more their
 ‘ passions than their reason, they always
 ‘ magnify the idea, and so greatly heighten
 ‘ the desire, that disappointment attends
 ‘ even the success of their wishes!—But
 ‘ we having conquered those wandering
 ‘ and uncertain hopes, which depend on
 ‘ things without us, confine our happiness
 ‘ to our present possessions, to those virtues
 ‘ which we cherish in our own breasts, and
 ‘ which, under the benign influence of an
 ‘ approving Deity, ripens into those real
 ‘ pleasures, which, without the vitiated
 ‘ palate of ambition, we now begin to
 ‘ taste of ; wisely proving to ourselves this
 ‘ religious truth, that even oppression,
 ‘ affliction and disappointment, may lead
 ‘ into

relating
then
 'into the road of happiness.'—In this sensible and consoling manner, were this amiable and contented couple gratifying each other in their present enjoyments, and so entirely intent on the subject of their felicity, that while they yet discoursed, they were inattentive to a sudden change which had ~~now~~ stolen upon the face of nature, as if it had been express, to furnish them with another recent proof of that fickleness and uncertainty which wait upon all earthly serenity. A chilness, which had crept gradually, and almost insensibly, upon them, stopt the course of conversation, and they were now about removing from the rocky shelter, when they perceived, that the late so placid countenances of both sea and air looked more dense and gloomy; the swelling surges began, in murmurs, to quicken their advances to the beach, assumed the form of waves, and soon, with hoarser grumblings, dashed, with vain fury, successively, against the sounding shore!—The sky lost, almost imperceptibly, its native azure, and was forming into more angry looking clouds, which rising progressively from the limited horizon, now spread with obscurity the whole expanse! an unformed rain, sputter'd, as if it were in combat with the winds, which, from uncouth whistling, swelled to frightful blustering,

ing, and at length seemed to hurry balls of fire and fury throughout the convulsed atmosphere! contending, seemingly, with the roused, rolling, roaring element below, which should strike with mightiest horrors the astonished mortals!

Edmund and *Bertha* ~~now~~ bethought themselves how they might best escape the effects of such an awful storm: they had fauntered too far from their house, and were fain to regain their covert in the rock, into which, penetrating a little farther, they found a safe protection from the inclemency of the tempest, and had still an opportunity of viewing its terrors in perspective. *thin*

After having been cooped up in this cave for more than an hour, they imagined they spied at a distance the appearance of a vessel struggling with the jarring billows; but as this figure was as often buried in the voids, formed between the high-swelled waves, as it could be sometimes discerned on the surface, their notions about it were yet only conjectural; but as the wind blew from the sea, and the half-wreck'd vessel disdaining the power of navigation, they could perceive that every violent gust forced the object nearer and nearer to their eye, until at length they could plainly discover her to be a galley, in every agony of distress;

distress; and soon the lamentable shrieks of perishing mortals affectingly assailed their pitying ears, till now, more earnest for the preservation of their fellow creatures, than anxious about their own safety: they abandoned their covert; and fighting through the storm, hastened to the sea-side, which they had hardly gained, when, dreadful to relate! the bottom, which until now had baffled the force of concussive billows, yielded to the quicker shock of a hidden bank, and soon was scattered in divided pieces! The pitying spectators, filled with every compassionate emotion, vainly risked their own safety, by sometimes mingling with the spent fury of the waves, the sooner to stretch forth their willing arms for the relief of some suffering mortals, whom they could now distinguish had clung themselves to different pieces of the separated wreck; when looking round them, and the obscurity of the sky now giving place again to a more reviving light, they observed, not far from them, two venerable forms, like Hermits, who seemed to have come down to the beach, and to be waiting, with the same heavenly intention, to administer, if possible, medicine to the distressed. Some mariners who by strength and habit were abler to labour against the waves, first found their safety on the welcome shore,

and

and were comforted by the united endeavours of those who hospitably waited for the occasion. But now the eyes of the pitying *Edmund* and his consort were fixed upon a plank, which they had discovered to be still labouring with the storm, and yet in a situation almost hopeless, and upon which they imagined they also saw some human figures. The manly *Edmund* could not long be the beholder only of such imminent hazard, but in he plunges among the waves, leaving the trembling *Bertha's* soul divided between blame on the rashness of her love, and the hopes of seeing him accomplish what he so generously dared. Whilst he, having exerted the power of every nerve, approached the unwieldy plank, gained the farthest side of it, and dextrously pushed it to the beach before him. What words can paint the lively joy which soon dispelled the palid fears which had so expressively distinguished themselves o'er every feature of the lovely *Bertha*, now not only blessed in the safe return of her dearest *Edmund*; but having seen him, by an uncommon exertion of a native resolution, be the happy preserver of a wreck, richly freighted with a venerable looking old gentleman, (a) one younger, (b) and

(a) Thane of Angus. (b) Lorn, son to the thane of Argyle.

a beautiful young lady, (*a*) whose appearances, under all their distress, indicated every one of them to be noble.

The good hermits, not altogether strangers to the like woeful catastrophies, were provided with cordials, well calculated for such affecting occasions, by the virtues of which, and the returning influence of the sun, which had at length triumphed over the sudden and violent invasions of the tempest, the youngest gentleman began to shew signs of unextinguished life: opening his eyes, and awakening as it were from the slumber of death, he sighed out, O! my *Eugenia*!—my *Eugenia*! have I lost thee, and do I live?—*Eugenia*, who had been no less the care of *Bertha*, and one of the hermits, began also to move with the reviving pulsations of life, and uttered faintly, in faltering accents,—O! my soul! my love! my *Lorn*! where art thou? Far, thou can’st not be! We were too closely linked together for fate to part us!—The sound, indistinct as it was, caught the ready ears of *Lorn*, and his eyes soon turned to whence it came. The unfolding lids of *Eugenia*’s, made her’s now meet the opened eyes of *Lorn*! They looked, souls full of

(*a*) Angus’s daughter.

thankfulness towards their deliverers; and had once more well nigh lost their sight, by the overflowings of love, in gazing wonder, inexpressible! at one another!—But hastening too fast to banish every doubt of their yet scarcely credited existence, they hurried to embrace, and sunk into one another's arms with such extreme emotion, that restoring cordials were again as necessary as before. Again administered! again revived! say! how emphatically the horrors of the past tempest were now contrasted by the delicateness of all that's tender?

Eugenia's returning senses had but just assured her of her own, and of her beloved's safety, when, with still the look of uncompleted life, she tenderly enquired, if any thing had been seen of a reverend old gentleman, who had been a companion in their fate? for alas! added she, how greatly damped shall be the present hour of joy, if it is to be soured with the loss of a Father? Age, not so well able to struggle with fatigues as youth, had rendered the recovery of the old gentleman more difficult than that of either *Lorn* or *Eugenia*; but the other hermit, who had administered every possible application to him, finding his revival yet precarious, was now beseeching more assistance, and every one, more eager than another, hastened with help, till at

C

length,

length, by chafing his temples, and forcing restoratives down his throat, he began also to shew marks of returning life ; to sustain which, however, it was plain, that some place more comfortable than the open beach was immediately necessary. The house of *Edmund* was too far off, and no convenient place so near as the cottage of the hermits, where, although there were no extraordinary accommodations to be had, yet there were sufficient to procure for him some immediate repose, and such refreshment as might sooner enable him to proceed a little farther into the country.

The men all joined in helping the old gentleman up the cliffs, and to support him, until they arrived at a neat hut, the cleanly dwelling of our supposed Ancho-rites. *Eugenia* followed, accompanied by the hospitable *Bertha*. And now our whole company having entered the hermitage, a fire is quickly lighted up, the old gentleman placed near it, his wet garments removed, and supplied with such other apparel as the cottage could afford ; whilst the considerate *Edmund* posted home to his house, and was not tardy in returning with dry cloathing also for the fair *Eugenia*, and her *Lorn*, neither of whom could be prevailed with to leave the hermitage, until they could see the old gentleman in so promising

missing a way, as to be accounted out of danger. Pain, and the extremity to which he had been reduced, had rendered him so pale, and had so much altered his look, that a most intimate acquaintance could with difficulty have known him; yet *Edmund* and *Bertha*, as he began to recover, could not avoid observing, that one of the hermits had eyed him with uncommon eagerness, and that whilst he gazed at him, symptoms of stifled anger, indignation, hatred and revenge, were to be read in his disordered countenance! But how soon, by the heat of the fire, by dry covering, by repeated cordials, and other refreshing restoratives, he began to re-assume his natural graceful appearance, the hitherto smothered resentment of the anchorite boiled up into the most violent rage; and just as the half-recovered old man was collecting the faculties of speech, and had begun to express his gratitude to Heaven, and to his preservers, the incensed hermit indignantly interrupted him:--- ‘ By heaven (says he) ‘ it is he! it is that very villain! that devil ‘ incarnate! that accursed minister and adviser to the vilest of all tyrants, *Macbeth*! ‘ How just, oh ye heavenly powers, do ‘ ye prove yourselves in all your works! ‘ and in none of them more than this!---

' By sending this monster to suffer that pu-
 ' nishment, by my hands, which he owes
 ' to myself, to my family, and to ten thou-
 ' sand more!--Look on me, *Angus!* and
 ' to thy confusion! recollect, under this
 ' disguise, the so much injured *Glamis!*
 ' that same *Glamis*, who has been affronted,
 ' ruined, and, to save that life so anxiously
 ' pursued, now driven from my native
 ' country, to waste out the miserable re-
 ' mains of it in hated exile, and all by thy
 ' damnable counsel to the most profligate
 ' of all tyrants!--Behold in that wretch,
 ' ye generous *English!* the most wicked,
 ' the most abandoned of the human race!
 ' the bane and destruction of his country!
 ' the ruin of her ancient nobles! the op-
 ' pressor of her people! and the instru-
 ' ment, in the impious hands of *Macbeth*,
 ' of butchering the laws and liberties of
 ' *Scotland?*' With these last words he un-
 sheathed a dagger, and, but for the timely
 interposition of the amazed company, he
 had instantly plunged it in the heart of
Angus. Fear and filial piety threw the beau-
 tiful *Eugenia* between her father and the
 intended blow; and love soon shot the
 stunned *Lorn* between the Thane and his
 beloved; and directing his more nervous
 arm to the hand of the furious *Glamis*, he
 thence, with difficulty, wrested the threaten-
 ing

ing dagger; and now recognizing *Glamis*, whom he did not sooner know,--- ‘ Hold, noble Thane! (said the agitated youth :) Great as thy injuries have been, let not the remembrance of them make thee fall below thyself, below the reputation of thy arms, of thy honour and virtue; by hurrying out of life an old, weak, and already half dead gentleman; who, if he has been guilty of the crimes imputed to him, has, by a variety of sufferings, in some degree atoned for them. Far from now approving of the arbitrary and cruel measures exercised by *Macbeth*, or justifying the seeming participation that his situation exposed him to in these transactions, he reflects upon them with sincere contrition: and supposing him to be as criminal as you imagine him, and totally in your power, yet surely it would be more in character for the noble *Glamis* to consent that he live to wash off that guilt with his tears, which you would rashly punish with his blood. Know, *Glamis*, (added he) that although I am not unacquainted with the dreadful accusations with which his country have blamed him, yet at the same time I know that his soul is possessed of virtues, which the times and the jealousy of the tyrant did not permit him to enforce. Be therefore, thou

“ generous, injured Thane! persuaded to
 “ command thy awakened vengeance, nor
 “ put me to the reluctant necessity of op-
 “ posing where I have so much respect;
 “ for assure thyself, that while *Lorn* has
 “ any blood in his veins, none shall now
 “ come at the Life of *Angus*, but through
 “ the heart of *Lorn*!----Prodigious! (re-
 “ plied the still enraged *Glamis*) what
 “ strange degeneracy? what unparalleled
 “ baseness? The young *Lorn* to protect
 “ that guilty head, by whose advice his
 “ own father was treacherously murdered!
 “ by whom his relations are robb’d of their
 “ estates! and those who could escape the
 “ dagger or the poison, forced, like me, to
 “ wander into foreign lands, and to subsist
 “ on the pitying charity of strangers!----Is
 “ it possible, that any of the generous blood
 “ of the great house of *Argyle* remains to
 “ circulate in thy veins, and thou declare
 “ thyself the protector of the base instru-
 “ ment by which thy family has been so
 “ exceedingly oppressed! Say, was not
 “ *Angus* the very active soul of *Macbeth*?
 “ Did that infernal usurper perpetrate any
 “ mischief, or did he contrive the ruin of
 “ any noble patriot, without first consult-
 “ ing his concurring oracle, the base *Angus*?
 “ Oh! *Lorn*! thou bearest the image of thy
 “ dear murdered father in thy face! ba-
 “ stardize

‘ flardize not thyself, nor degenerate from
 ‘ the principles of that noble line, which
 ‘ have been so long illustrious for virtue and
 ‘ for honour!’

Embarrassed as the much affected *Lorn*
 now stood before the wondering *Edmund*,
Bertha, the other attentive Hermit, and
 the indignant trembling *Eugenia*; recol-
 lecting himself, with an equal mixture of
 modesty and grandeur, he thus answered
 to the stinging reproaches of the venerable
Glamis: ‘ If I should not be able to justify
 ‘ my honour, and yet defend the life of
 ‘ the father of my dear *Eugenia*, I will sa-
 ‘ crifice both to the severity of your justice.
 ‘ But be first a just judge, lay aside passion,
 ‘ which never attends the ear of equity;
 ‘ and with cool impartiality hear me plead
 ‘ the cause I am espousing.”

The compassionating hearts of *Edmund*
 and the real Hermit were greatly moved
 with the expressiveness which appeared on
 both sides of this affecting scene; whilst
Bertha’s feelings for the labouring distresses
 of the fair *Eugenia*, represented her as so
 much a sharer in her anxiety, that the
 noble *Edmund*, willing to put an end to
 such a melancholy altercation, now inter-
 posed; and addressing himself to the exas-
 perated *Glamis*, delivered himself to this
 effect: That it was not now the time to
 discuss

discuss the intricacies of a question, which appeared to be so important to the interests of both the parties; that to complete a perfect recovery from the unspeakable dangers from which those of one side had been so lately and so providentially relieved, it was yet necessary that they should be accommodated with many other restoratives; and that for his part, he should not admit, that the rules of hospitality, which now lay at his door to give proofs of, should be so unseasonably transgressed upon, as to be immediately interrupted with family contentions; and he hoped that the worthy *Glamis* would, for the present at least, subdue the risings of private revenge, as not consistent with his own good understanding, nor justifiable by the laws of the land they had come to seek protection in.—These remonstrances, which were gravely seconded by the real Hermit, who reasoned also from motives of Christianity, which discountenance revenge of any sort, as totally repugnant to the precepts of that pure religion which ought to be the guide and conductor of all our actions. By the joint arguments of these worthy persons, the lately aroused anger of the vindictive *Glamis* began to be appeased; and the sensible heart of the abashed and yet weakly *Angus* was full, with what it had in vain laboured to discharge,

discharge, and which the considerate *Edmund*, for this time, put a stop to; and having provided proper carriages for the purpose, they were all severally conducted to the hospitable possessions of their generous protector.

The salutary and kind entertainment which the strangers found in the affectionate applications of *Edmund* and *Bertha*, procured a repose so restorative to them, that the next day they were surprisingly recovered; and even the old Thane of *Angus* was so much revived, that he was in a condition to receive the congratulations of every one who condescended to visit him; but of all the rest, he being the most anxious to see the Thane of *Glamis*, he first expressed his desire to be transported to the Hermits cave; but every body, from regard for him, opposing that attempt, as yet hazardous; *Edmund*, with the brother Hermit, walked out, and so successfully expostulated with *Glamis*, that he was at length prevailed on to accompany them in a visit to *Angus*, who no sooner beheld him in his apartment, the frowns which he wore on his countenance the preceding day, being a good deal softened, than with an air of noble complacency *Angus* thus accosted him:—— ‘ So generous a visit to
 ‘ the man whom I confess you have but
 10 ‘ too

' too much reason to hate, touches me
 ' much more sensibly than all those re-
 ' proaches with which you loaded me at
 ' our last meeting: I wish for nothing
 ' more than to convince you, that although
 ' every appearance, from a too blind obe-
 ' dience to a tyrannical master, is much
 ' against me; yet if you will condescend to
 ' hearken with patience to the secret history
 ' of these times, and will judge candidly of
 ' the motives which originally engaged me
 ' into that diabolical service, from which
 ' I never had it till now in my power to re-
 ' tire with safety; I flatter myself, that even
 ' the just and rigid *Glamis*, if he cannot
 ' approve, will at least excuse in me the
 ' involuntary administration of many enor-
 ' mities, which were repugnant to my na-
 ' ture, but to which I was obliged to lend
 ' my name, or, by my own untimely death,
 ' make place for some wickeder minister,
 ' who might not study so much as I did to
 ' season cruelty with moderation.' The
 offended *Glamis*, who could not yet con-
 quer entirely his indignation, was, however,
 extremely disposed to hear an account of
 the strange transactions which had passed
 in his native country, to which, since his
 unhappy banishment, he had been so totally
 a stranger; and well knowing that no other
 person was capable to give so exact a history
 of

of them, he in the mean time disguised his resentment; and signifying to *Angus*, that he would listen with great attention to his relation, *Angus* was happy in the condescension; but as the day was rather too far spent, and he yet too weak to undertake so interesting a task, he proposed, that all the gentlemen should next morning meet in his apartment, and that then he would gratify them with the knowledge of such transactions as would amaze them to hear, and sadly affect him to relate; but suggesting that, as for the sake of truth, he should be obliged to display many intrigues, plots and cabals, rather improper for gentle ears, he desired that the ladies, especially his daughter *Eugenia*, as too much personally concerned in some of them, might contrive for themselves some other amusement.

Every member of this little company was more impatient than another, until the hour should arrive that was to bring them together the next morning. The Thane of *Angus* was prepared for the meeting, and how soon they were convened, and the common salutations of the day performed, he proceeded with great precision and sensibility through the following affecting and interesting circumstances.

I being

‘ I being five years older than *Macbeth*, my appearance in the court of king *Duncan* was very nigh by so much earlier than his; and as I myself had met with no unfavourable reception, but was rather regarded as one of the foremost in the courtly circle, I had a share in *Macbeth*’s introduction, while he was yet but one and twenty years of age. His noble and sprightly deportment gained a prejudice in his favour with both sexes; and I cannot help acknowledging, that he soon made very strong impressions upon me. At that æra there seemed to be a similarity in our dispositions, which in a manner pre-occupied one another’s approbation. We were both tinctured with ambition, but as that had not then risen to such a pitch of predominance, as to subdue softer passions, we had at the same time no small propensity to the amorous. It was therefore, that in the commencement of our acquaintance, the greatest share of our industry was devoted to love; and intriguing with the ladies, employed, in these days, more of our time than the intrigues of the state.

‘ Amongst all the fair who adorned this court, none shone with so much influence as the two lately married daughters of the Thane of *Broad-Albain*, *Jaquenetta* and *Anabella*. The first was wife to the Thane of

Gaurey, and the other to the Thane of *Kyle*, who were both men of power at court; but being much more advanced in years than their ladies, and not supposed equal to those fires, which the addresses of the gay and gallant, with youth, were likely to inspire in the breasts of young persons of their beauty and quality; these amiable creatures were greatly exposed to the artillery of sweet hearts, better suited to their years. *Faquenetta* had, I blush to confess it, kindled a flame in my heart, which I had not virtue enough to subdue; and *Anabella* it seemed had made no less impression in the breast of *Macbeth*.—It would be to give my relation, too much the air of romance, to be particular in the various stratagems we employed to seduce them, and of the success which both of us at length had our applications crowned with; let it suffice to inform you, that our assiduity met with no unfavourable reception, that in a short time we were happy to our wish; and that it was perhaps owing to the connections in these amours, and to some circumstances attending them, that first created a confidence, and at last insensibly, formed such a league, between *Macbeth* and me, as it was hardly possible to dissolve.”

“ It would be, continued the Thane, as unsuitable at my time of life, as it is inconsistent with my present way of thinking, to entertain you my friends, with tales of love; and yet as they are in some respect necessary to elucidate the contradictions of which so singular a character was composed; here you will find the account of *Macbeth's* intrigue with *Lady Kyle*, as taken from his own diction; for in these days we were so entirely impregnated with a mutual approbation, that we began this strong instance of it, I by recording the relation he gave of his affair with *Anabella*, and he of mine with her sister; and it will probably astonish you to observe, that a man so susceptible of the finer touches of amour, could be possessed of a soul so capable of rapacity and tyranny. It is true, these amours were founded in guilt, and it is with remorse I now own it, that even the softest passion when inspired by criminality can only find room in such breasts as are open to other vices; the influence they had in subsequent transactions makes it necessary to mention them, and your reading them over will be a remission to me from the fatigue of the narration.” *Edmund* took the paper and from thence continued the detail as if there had been no interruption.

Macbeth

“ *Macbeth* one night, having an assignation with *Anabella*, to which for the sake of both her’s, and his own reputation no mortal was privy, he went alone to the rendezvous: he was waiting for the agreed signal, by the side of a garden wall, when his listening ears caught the alarm of some persons, as if advancing from another quarter; he sought in a void by the garden door to conceal himself, in hopes those whom he judged to be approaching, might in the dark pass by, without discovering him; but contrary to his expectation, they took post just by him; and then he heard one of the company, thus, accost the rest—

“ Watch this post with all care, it cannot be long ’ere he come; my intelligence is certain; and how soon he appears, be it your care to prevent his escaping, and thereby to have in his power the discovery of our enterprize.—Besides the reward I have promised, you will have the satisfaction of punishing a man, who has injured yourselves, by having obtained those places once enjoyed by you, for some of his own creatures; when he is dispatched, these places, will be in my father’s power, you know my influence with him, and you may rely upon my using it for men, who by the destruction, of my preferred rival, shall open for me a less interrupted passage

to the dear object of my passion."—*Macbeth* immediately distinguished by the voice, that this cowardly harrangue was uttered, by no other than *Thurso*, son to the old Thane of *Caithefs*, whom he knew to be not only his rival in the love of *Anabella*, but one who had fruitlessly disputed the King's favour, with him; but how it was possible for him, to preserve both reputation and person, in such a terrible dilemma, where his single arm must be opposed, to those of three or four; he knew not.—*Thurso* who had no mind to be known in this dirty matter himself, having employed three of the most worthless of his clan, who had for different malversations been dismissed from offices they enjoyed under the crown, and for which deprivation he had influenced them to blame *Macbeth*, he, I say, withdrew after the delivery of his charge to them; and they in looking about for the most retired corner to conceal themselves in, were entering the very porch, where *Macbeth* was hid, when instantly unsheathing his sword, he suddenly leaped through them, and gained a more open situation; the assassins pursued, and at once he had all the three swords pointed against him; to such a superiority, he must no doubt have soon submitted with his life, had it not happened to be my good, or rather ill, fortune, having

having that very moment, left less interrupted joys in the arms of *Jaquenetta*, who lived in a house almost adjoining to her sister's; had it not happened, I say to be my fortune to arrive in the instant.—I did not immediately know *Macbeth*, nor had then any remarkable intimacies passed between us; but the inequality of the engagement, and the apparent barbarity of the assault, soon determined me, on which side to join my endeavours: I drew my sword, and placing myself close by *Macbeth*, bid him fear nothing from such aggressors, for the base hearts, that had been capable of attacking a single gentleman, would certainly be forced to submit to the more generous, and united strength of two honest men!—I had scarcely said so much, when, as if my words and presence had inspir'd him with fresh vigour, he made a furious pass, and laid one of the three ruffians dead at our feet: the other two, having now neither the advantage of numbers, nor of a good cause, began to save themselves by flight; but *Thurso* who waited the event, at no great distance; and whose resentment against *Macbeth*, was, by the defeat of his bravadoes rather aggravated than abated, interrupted their escape, and upbraiding their dastardliness, had the impudence, with sword in hand, to lead them back himself

to the base assassination: *Macbeth* stood upon his defence, and by an artful address to the ruffians, and intreating me not to dishonour any more my sword, in combating with assassins, he perswaded them to desist, and to let the young *Caitkness* prove himself worthy or not, of the prize he courted, by contending it with him singly: it was impossible, in such a situation, for *Thurso* to shun the challenge, and therefore, now summoning all the false courage he was master of, in aid of his revenge, he assaulted the more dextrous *Macbeth* with every mark of fury; but he was quickly convinced of his antagonist's superiority, by receiving from his sword such a desperate wound, 'as in an instant, made him tumble at his feet: and could now only gratify his disappointed wrath, in growling imprecations upon the head of his conqueror; and against the too lovely, but partial *Anabella*!—*Macbeth* threatened by another stab, to punish his baseness, and to put it out of his power, to give any account of the cause of his fall, so as to injure the peace and reputation of *Anabella*; but upon my remonstrating, that to repeat the wounds he had so fairly given, while the other was in a state of defence, would now that he lay defenceless on the ground, be deemed unworthy of him, and give rise to calumny; he was easily prevailed

vailed with ; and thus *Thurso* was left to the care of his two ruffians, who we imagined were not far off, although fear had removed them from our view.—I offered to attend *Macbeth* to his apartments, which he willingly accepted of, for although till now he had not been sensible of them, yet in the fury of *Thurso's* first onset, he had given him two slight wounds, one of which bleeding pretty plentifully, had rendered him somewhat faintish ; I supported him home, sent immediately for a surgeon, and amidst a thousand expressions of the warmest gratitude, I waited till his wounds were dressed, and as there was no sort of danger in them, I left him to his repose.—I went next morning to enquire how he did, he received me with numberless caresses, said I was his preserver, and assured me that while he lived, he would study to convince me of the deep sense he had of the service I had done him : in fine, there appeared to be so much sincerity, and cordiality in the sentiments of gratitude, with which he then courted my friendship, that I shall confess he excited in me a prejudice in his favour, which exceeded any thing, I had ever to that hour felt for mankind ; such a mutual approbation of one another, could not fail to grow up to such a confidence, as produced that singular union and amity, which bound me

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in connections with him, so much longer than his actions, with remorse I acknowledge it, deserved the countenance of the patriot or honest man.——Having upon this occasion however, reciprocally exchanged engagements of the most inviolable friendship; I will not delay, my dear preserver, said he, to give you the strongest testimony, that one man is capable of giving to another, of that confidence, which I think you only deserve, by communicating to you a secret which no person on earth knows, or should ever know from me but yourself; although from what happened last night, I am afraid the charming *Anabella* through some fatal necessity, must have trusted it with some confidante of hers. It is, my dear friend, on account of a preference which that matchless creature has bless'd me with; that the ambitious, tho' cowardly, son of *Caitbness* has been provoked to enterprize the scene of baseness which you found him employed in; and by what I heard him say, as he charged his meaner souled instruments, with the execution of his unmanly purpose, I dread, I say, that *Anabella* must have been betrayed by some one, who for our convenience, she may have trusted with the important secret.—This darling *Anabella*, the beautiful wife of the old Thane of *Kyle*, cannot have escap'd the eyes of a nobleman of

Angus's

Angus's penetration: and although it be true, that she has birth, merit, and above all, beauty, which better entitle her to the arms of the greatest monarch on earth, than to the feeble embraces of an old Thane, or to be mistress to the most accomplished of the human race; yet, my worthy friend, so amazingly fortunate have I been, as to have rendered myself agreeable to that charmer; and with her, when occasion can be found, to revel in such transports, as she alone can bestow.—Yet these delights, of which *Anabella* herself would now be no churl, are, like every thing else that's rare, not to be purchased without difficulties: The husband, rather uxorious, than otherwise, has few avocations abroad, and those he has, are so uncertain, that sometimes interruption itself, and sometimes the fear of it, have hitherto prevented my being regaled with a belly-full of Love.—Permit me, continued *Macbeth*, to divert you for a moment, with some comical enough circumstances which attended our immediately preceding disappointment: *Anabella* had kindly sent me notice that her Thane was just preparing to go upon a visit, at such a distance from home, as she imagined would detain him till the next day, and that in any event, she thought we might, with safety, pass some moments together, that afternoon: You will not, my dear friend, believe

believe that I slighted so desirable an invitation; I waited, or more properly lingered, with the utmost impatience, until the appointed minute arrived, and then with all the ardour of enthusiastic love: I hastened me to the field of beauty! And there!—'tis yet a heaven to relate it! I found, the charmer of my soul, in a negligent, but bewitching undress; through the slim elegance of which, the perfect proportion of every part, swelling upon the imagination, commanded by irresistible attraction, an admiration not to be awakened by all the pomp, which dress can borrow from embroidery or jewels!—It must be the most luxuriant fancy, and not words, that can describe to you, the thrilling emotions which now circulated thro' every Member of the enchanted *Macbeth*! to be short, after fully feasting my ravished eyes, and gratifying every amorous touch; I had just plunged into fruition! when O! more than cruel intervention! the voice of the old Thane startled us from a neighbouring chamber!—and forced me, reluctant, to retire, and raging, leave the uncompleted banquet!—Danger inevitable now confounded both!—hardly one moment for consideration! so that I thought of no other resource than, by my sword, to gain our immediate deliverance.—But happily for the Thane, and
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no less fortunate for us, the lucky accident of searching for what he had forgotten detained him some minutes in the antichamber; this gave the half distracted *Anabella* time to recover her scattered senses, the consequence of which was, that she directed me, to creep immediately under the bed as the only hiding place our situation afforded; I however without either thought or hesitation instantly complied; and had just squatted in my irksome retreat, and she but half adjusted, when in entered the unsuspecting Thane: *Anabella* had placed herself on the couch, the better to conceal any impressions, which might have been visible there: he appeared at first surprized; and asked her, Why in that undress?—She answered with amazing readiness; that the day had been intolerably hot; and that as he had gone from home, she was determined to see no company; she intended therefore to dream away the sultry hours, in refreshing slumbers. and had unrob'd herself, for her more easy repose.—The inviting dishabile, and engaging attitude, he found her in, even began to quicken unusual emotions in the grave Thane; he seated himself by her, and became a recent proof, that such exquisite charms as the tempting *Anabella* possessed, could invigorate the half chilled faculties of age itself:

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in fine, profiting of the privileges of a husband, he proceeded to amuse himself with liberties which she would fain have dispensed with, and which were to me as shocking, as a view of the happiness of the first human pair, was to the sight of the envying devil. She used every means her art could suggest, to postpone at least, an enjoyment, which at that juncture must be the more disgusting to herself, as she knew it would be tormenting to me: she affected indisposition, assumed a countenance of ill humour; she struggled; she scolded; but as every opposition serves rather to whetten than abate the amorous rage, so it was with old Kyle, whose eagerness increasing by resistance, at length matrimonially laboured, to perform the office of a lover! Whilst the unwilling *Anabella*, submitting to the authority of a husband, in the same instant that she gave pleasure to one who was then very indifferent to her, ~~was~~ extended tortures to the man she loved!——Patience however, having endured the conjugal conflict, and the Thane's unfinished business still waiting for him at a distance, he was obliged to retire; although he was on this occasion so remarkably enamoured of the degagée air he caught *Anabella* in, that he embraced her at parting with uncommon ardour, promised (what she could have excused him from)

from) not to sleep from home if possible, and finally, cursed that business which should ever make it necessary for him, to to be an hour absent from so delightful a companion."

' Loosely attired as she was, she attended him down stairs, not so much from regard or compliment, as to see him remount his steed, and be thereby assured that he was really gone. She quickly re-ascended and having secured all the doors, approached with most compassionating complacency to welcome my enlargement from that ungracious confinement, out of which I had just emerged.—A consciousness of her having been the reluctant instrument of so much torment to a person beloved by her, overspread her lovely countenance with the most expressive blushes; O! do not hate me, my dear *Macbeth*, said she, for what I could not help, consistently with your safety; for believe me, my Lord, my anxiety to suppress every appearance of suspicion, and to shorten the moments of your dismal confinement, had more prevalence over my involuntary mind, than all the arguments of conjugal authority. I hastily caught her in my arms, and interrupted her with glowing kisses! To hate you, I answered, is impossible! But O! how much more than ever do I hate your

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detested

detested husband! O! may the more generous beast he rides revenge my quarrel, and by a well-timed toss, so effectually disable him, that he may never be again in a capacity to rifle those sweets, which were bestowed for the blessings of youth, and not to be abused by the insipid pawings of old age.—But no more of the baneful subject.—Let us now rekindle the more equal flames of love, and drown all thought of care in currents of substantial joy!—No! said *Anabella*, I will not give pollution to the arms I love! I will follow the usage of the ancients, and by ablution cleanse me of the stains I've suffered!—So saying, she disengaged herself from the close embrace, and hurrying through different apartments, at last unfolding a double door, she threw aside her loose attire, and plunged into a well prepared bath. The floating beauties which now inflamed my agitated soul, enhanced, if possible, the extacy I had felt before!—All patience left me; I rather tore than pulled off my clothes, and rushed into this new, this liquid scene of love! If ever you have seen the genuine transports of the swelling necked swans, when prompted by genial instinct to frolick on the sustaining surface of the stream, how they bill and twine, and twine and bill, and proudly expand the wings of gladness
which

which they feel! So were the joyous embraces of my love and me! Like them too we might have sported longer, but the more delicate frame of the lovely *Anabella* being the first susceptible of the too cooling element, began, by gentle shiverings, to intimate an inclination to change the scene. I supported her to the steps on the farther side, where towels, and other conveniencies for the occasion, were to be found. We performed, with mutual transports, the offices of bathing waiters for each other, and I soon revived in my lovely *Naiad* those warm circulations, which had for a little time been chilled. She attired herself as before; and, taught by her example, I rather hung my vestments over me than put them on. The nymph, reflective, viewed with approving blushes the unmeditated novelty of the scene, and every beauty of the lovely image was thereby amazingly improved; in this fulness of delight, I led her, unreluctant, through the different passages, and regained the apartment first designed for amorous sport; and there, in extacies unutterable, we re-communicated reciprocal delights! — Unwilling, yet, to cast a thought on those hours so pleasantly spent in amorous dalliance, the evening's dusk, however, gave us warning, that mutual safety demanded we should part: full

time it was, for I had not proceeded many yards from the seat of all my joy, when I could perceive the cheated Thane advancing to his house. — A tedious week has passed since that delightful day; and until yesterday, it had not been in *Anabella's* power to bless me with another opportunity: it was then, that in obedience to a mandate from her own fair hand, I hoped to find her in the pavilion of her garden, she having, by reason of a feigned indisposition, proposed to the Thane to sleep alone in a separate apartment. The rest, my dear friend, you know; and thence you may judge how unhappy I feel myself, for fear of my charmer's reputation.'

' I expressed the most perfect sensibility of the confidence with which *Macbeth* had honoured me; bid him hope for every service I could do for him, in disappointing the consequences of what he feared; and, as the best return I could make him for that trust he had reposed in me, I told him he should immediately be the confidant to an affair of mine, of the same nature, and to me equally interesting. I then communicated to him, that *Jaquenetta*, the beautiful sister of his beloved *Anabella*, was no less the object of my adoration than *Anabella* was of his! That I was not less happy than he in the most favourable returns for my

my love; with this difference, that my intriguing meeting with no other obstructions than such as decency render necessary, my appetite was not whetted by the same sort of difficulties which gave a relish to his, but which however, to one of my more sedate disposition, does by no means lessen the enjoyment.—You know (I said) the two factions, which pretend to divide the court; those of *Caithness* and of *Ross*. *Gauzy*, the husband of my engaging *Jaquenetta*, is wholly in the interest of *Ross*, from whose favour with the king he promises himself no little influence: ambition is his chief aim, to that he sacrifices every other consideration, and makes him uncommonly anxious to engage all the young noblemen he can, to espouse the faction of *Ross*; and carefully adapts his baits to the inclinations of the party he would proselyte; and as youth is for the most part in pursuit of pleasures, under the influence of some one predominant passion; one he entertains with music; to another he covers his table with the most costly repasts; a third he will mount upon the finest horse of his stables; and amongst some, he will even dissipate his money at play. He was not long of discovering, that the bent of my inclinations leaned another way, and from a steady application to my looks, he soon read from

my eyes, that the fair *Jaquenetta* was the dearest object of my soul:—the discovery gave him more joy than disturbance; he was happy to think, that he had in his power a bribe, that might engage me to abandon a party he imagined I was before inclined to: invitations to his house became more than usually frequent; he caressed me with the affections of a brother, and assured me of such a preference in his esteem, that he would constantly employ all his power to serve me. After dinner, he would artfully contrive such amusements for the rest of his company, as best suited their respective palates, that he might give me the better opportunities of offering my addresses to his wife; and leave her to improve upon the lesson she had got from him to solicit my inclinations in favour of the Thane of *Ross*. Such a solicitress, you may be sure, could not, to one of my complexion, and who was truly enamoured passionately with her person, urge a suit in vain. It is true, that on purpose to enhance the value of the condescension I intended to pay her, I represented my attachments for the house of *Caitbness* to be much deeper founded than in fact they ever had been; for if the truth had been known, the sacrifice I was to make her was but little worth the courting, since, in my private
 opinion,

opinion, neither of the contending parties merited the approbation of any man of consequence; and I assured myself, that it could not be a long while before some other, as powerful, and more deserving than either of them, would supercede them both: however, if I had before made my election upon neither of the sides, the powerful applications of *Jaquenetta* now certainly determined me, but not without persuading her, that the arguments of her eyes, which were ten thousand times more irresistible than every other plea that could be urged in favour of the Thane of *Ross*, had alone commanded my inclinations, as effectually as her matchless charms had captivated my heart.—It was with joy I perceived that the tenderness with which I poured forth my sentiments for her, was not disregarded; and although, in the beginning, she conducted herself with a decorum which forbid the most distant approaches of any thing indelicate, yet, by the almost daily opportunities with which her good-natured Thane furnished me of enforcing my suit, I had the satisfaction to find that I gained some ground in every interview; in so much, that after the third or fourth serious conference, the expressions of my passion grew warmer and warmer, and were listened to without that repug-

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nance with which she checked them in the beginning of our acquaintance. I dared, now, to approach her lovely person, to grasp her trembling hand, and ravish an intoxicating kiss, without affronting her. Upon these, and such like introductory advances, resistance on her part became weaker, as passion on my side gathered greater force, and hurried on to unrepulsed liberties, which filled my every nerve with vast emotion! On one tempting occasion, pressing her to my glowing bosom, I could perceive, from the enchanting movement of her's, that love was pleading as successfully for me as she had solicited for *Ross*! With my moistened lips glued to her snowy neck, I smothered opposition, and sucked consent to joy!—She sunk in my embrace!—I vowed eternal fidelity and love! and profiting of the lucky minute, revelled in those sweets which bounteous nature has provided to make life worthy mankind's care!—This, the first scene of our felicity, being happily closed, the charmer gently reproved me for having caught an advantage over her weakness; saying, that although the power of resistance had been disarmed by so warm applications, yet her heart entirely disapproved of her folly. I soothed her well affected repentance, by promises, not only of the most inviolable attachment
 which

which the sincerest love and gratitude for the bliss she had bestowed could ensure, but I made fresh protestations to her, that my interest and operations at court should be totally at her disposal. I pressed her to name the happy hour, when I might renew my professions, but too nice a delicacy would not permit her at that juncture to satisfy my request; yet, when with a lover's salute, I took my leave, she dismissed me with a smile that was not unpromising. In conformity to my engagement, I the very next court day openly associated with *Ross's* party, to the no small surprize of many nobles, who had long laboured in vain to procure a declaration from me. You yourself, I believe, wondered at it; and to this hour, the cause of so sudden an effect is only known to *Jaquenetta*, her husband, to love, and now to *Macbeth*! For as courtly strife is by no sort of means actuated by motives of public good, but is merely a contention for power, for places, and for the king's ear; I look'd at the parties until that moment with such an indifferent eye, that a much less cogent argument than the inestimable love of *Jaquenetta* would have swayed me to either side.— And now, my dear *Macbeth*, in return of yours, you are ~~now~~ the only confident in the amour of your charming *Anabella's* sister---

sister—And superlatively happy I am, replied *Macbeth*, in such an interesting confidence.—It looks as if our souls were, by so sympathetic a connection, destined to an intimacy, which I shall study to improve to our mutual advantage. We exchanged vows of unalterable friendship for one another, the first proof of which fell to my share, by an anxious appearance at court, to learn what had become of the young *Caitness*, and what animadversions had been made upon the subject of his wounds. I was earlier than ordinary, and yet the Thane of *Caitness* had got the start of me. With unusual fury in his countenance, he accosted me, as he proposed to do by every nobleman that entered, and endeavoured to prepossess me against *Macbeth*, by greatly aggravating every circumstance of the assault, an unmanly one, as he termed it, upon his son. He remonstrated, That if such excesses were permitted to go unpunished, even with Princes of the blood, none of the nobility should be safe, in attempting to oppose them in the perpetration of the most unjustifiable outrages.—That *Macbeth's* assault upon the life of his son had no other provocation, than that *Thurso*, seeing three innocent gentlemen overpowered by numbers of bravadoes, who attended to support *Macbeth* in some

secret

secret and desperate enterprize ; he bravely joined himself to the weakest side, and fell a sacrifice to his generosity : That these gentlemen had been remarkably the objects of *Macbeth's* resentment, he having before got them dismissed from profitable places, to make room for some of his own creatures ; and that next he purposed to send them out of the world ; for that one of them, an old gentleman, had actually fallen in defence of his son, who was hardly pushed by some of *Macbeth's* desperadoes ! In this manner did old *Caithness* very forcibly represent his son's case, and supplicated every nobleman to surround the king, how soon he should enter the audience-chamber, and demand the Royal Justice upon such a flagitious assassination !—Although *Caithness* was not of the blood royal, he was a powerful man in his own country, by which he had gained such an interest with the king, that could he have carried this well-framed tale into belief, and in fact it made impression upon many, it must have gone hard with *Macbeth*, then but young at court, and not much favoured by the ~~king~~. *Caithness* had observed, that his relation was attended to by me rather contemptuously than otherwise ; he now therefore left me out of the circle of his abettors, and whispered amongst his intimates,

Faction

mates, that he feared this outrage, barbarous as it was, would be palliated by all the faction of the Thane of *Ross*; although *Ross* himself, who by this time had joined the courtiers, and giving credit to the assertions of his rival *Caitbness*, was one of the foremost to condemn *Macbeth*. The King being entered, the old Thane of *Caitbness*, with tears in his eyes, and supported by a train of followers, fell on his knees before the King, briefly recounted the tragical story of the assault; and supplicated justice for the loss of a noble son, who then lay expiring with the wounds he had received from a band of ruffians headed by *Macbeth*. His complaint was seconded, not only by all his own, but by many of the *Ross* faction; and the enraged *Duncan* was ready to pronounce an order for the immediate securing of *Macbeth*, until the event of *Thursoe's* life or death should constitute the criminality of the action; when I interposed, and humbly prayed his Majesty's attention for a moment; and having his permission to speak, I briefly, but with firmness, told him, ' That, to my certain knowledge, the old Thane himself had been grossly imposed upon, and that now he had endeavoured also to impose upon his King: That no person then present, but myself, was capable of putting the true
light

fight upon that affair, which I said was indeed a horrid one, but horrid on the part of *Thursoe*, not on the part of *Macbeth*! who, but for my accidental intervention, must have been basely butchered by vile assassins hounded upon him by the cowardly *Thursoe*. I expressed my sorrow for the father's tears, but I could not mention the baseness of the son, so well known to me, in milder words,---That three dastardly villains had been employed by him to massacre *Macbeth*! for what reason, was best known to his own guilty conscience! That luckily for your Majesty's kinsman, the noble *Macbeth*, I passed that way, and saw him, then unknown to me, defending himself, with his single arm, against the united fury of three! The laws of humanity engaged me to assist the weakest; and animated by my arrival, he pushed his adversaries with redoubled force, and instantly laid one of them sprawling at his feet. The other two dastards sought to escape, but were interrupted by their master *Thursoe*, who till then lay in ambush waiting the event. He reproached them with cowardice, and led them back himself to renew the assault; when *Macbeth* instantly proposed, that as his quarrel was only with him, they should singly decide it. *Thursoe*, thus provoked to fair combat, unwilling

as he might be to accept it, could not well refuse the honourable challenge, the rather, that his emissaries shewed no great inclination to run any farther risk with him.---*Macbeth* sustained the first onset from *Thursoe*, and the wounds he received, tho' not dangerous, confine him, nevertheless, at this moment, to his chamber : but after two or three turns, it was the fate of *Thursoe* to yield to the braver arm of his more honourable antagonist. This, my Royal Master, is the true account of the falsified relation you have heard. I hope I need not appeal to the evidence of two villains in support of the testimony I have given ; and yet, if *Caithness* should discredit mine, I am convinced that they durst not, in the Royal Presence, contradict the fact, as I have told it.'

' The good King was at once moved with indignation against the son, whilst he could not help compassionating the deluded father, who slunk, confounded, from the Royal Presence.'

' The heads of the *Ross* faction being by, triumphed in this affront upon their rival's family, and courted every opportunity of engaging *Macbeth* to be of their party. They espoused his cause with great warmth, not so much in honour of himself, as to throw the more dishonour upon the interest
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of their adversaries, which from that hour began to decline, and as fast did *Macbeth's* reputation and his power begin to rise:--- and from thence indeed may be dated the commencement of all those honours he afterwards acquired, as well as that fatal ambition, which grew with power to tyranny, and, in all probability, from tyranny to ruin!

‘ The *Rossians*, that they might the better avail themselves of this advantage gained over their adversaries, and that they might the better confirm *Macbeth* in their interest, petitioned the King, that a day might be appointed for an inquiry into that dark affair, to the end that *Macbeth*, if innocent, should get a fair opportunity of clearing himself from the ungenerous aspersions imputed to him; and on the other hand, that the young *Caithness* should be brought to legal trial for so daring and criminal an assault upon the person of one of the Royal blood! The King could not but comply with so plausible a demand for justice, and accordingly fixed the hearing for the tenth day after the physicians should pronounce the life of *Thurloe* to be out of danger.’

‘ The noble *Banquo*, also one of the Blood-royal, and cousin to *Macbeth*, was amongst the foremost who vehemently

called for justice against the *Caitbness* family; urging, That as the old Thane, whilst he imagined that his son was the injured party, insisted, that even the Royal blood of *Macbeth* should not screen him from punishment; so it was certainly reasonable, that Justice should; now that the tables were turned, stand forth for him, as well as against him; for, otherwise, such factious nobility might, in the next place, be tempted to promote their ambitious purposes, by assaulting the Throne itself!

‘ The *Caitbness* faction had many consultations about this knotty affair, which threatened more mischief to their party than any thing that had hitherto befallen them. The Thane himself was a man of consummate skill, gave much application, and had great address in public affairs; Withal, he was extremely generous; so that in the general, his schemes were well laid, and promised success, if they had not been, for the most part, defeated by an impatience and impetuosity of temper, which he could not command, and which was so well known to his enemies, that they seldom failed to make their account of it, when his schemes came to be debated in council. The Thane of *Ross*, his competitor, was a man of a clear head, and so cool and sedate in debate, that it was not
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in the power of man to ruffle his temper, or make him deviate from that moderation, by which he uniformly steered his actions: but then he was avaritious and resentful; there was no measure to his ambition, nor bounds to his lust for wealth; although he could judge well, who should, and who should not, participate of the public spoils. Their partisans were seasoned, more or less, with the different qualities of their leaders. Those of *Caitbness* were generally hot-headed, but generous; and those of *Ross* affable and courteous, but rapacious and niggardly.

‘The King was weak and indolent, and had not capacity to convert the different talents of these rivals to the public service. Now the one, then the other, was uppermost; and the kingdom exposed to be the spoil of any invader who might have address enough to engage the outed party in his interest; by which means the people in general were kept in constant inquietude.’

‘In one of the debates of the *Caitbness* faction, it was resolved, that *Tbursoe*, so soon as he should be able, should communicate to the Thane of *Kyle* the intrigue between his wife and *Macbeth*, and endeavour to persuade him, that the wounds and disgrace he had suffered, were entirely owing to his zeal for the honour of *Kyle*’s

family. This rash resolution was but too agreeable to the hot temper of the young *Caithness*, he hoping thereby not only to revenge himself on the lady's partiality and neglect of him, but to excite such a jealousy into *Kyle*, as should rouse his revenge against the man who had wronged his bed and honour, to such a height, as might induce him to put some plot in execution, to destroy the author, and thereby defeat the force of what he was afraid should come out against him at the appointed trial: And lastly, that it would probably carry over *Kyle* to the *Caithness* interest, when he should be convinced that the spoiler of his honour was himself not only attached to the *Rossian* party, but in this case supported with all their power.---*Thursoe* therefore, without waiting a perfect recovery, sent a message to the Thane of *Kyle*, intimating an intention to wait upon him the following morning, having business of the last importance to his reputation and honour to communicate. An affair which had made so much noise at court, could now be a secret to no body, and every one had, from curiosity, been inquisitive into the first cause of the encounter. Amongst others, *Kyle* himself had heard whispers, which could not be very agreeable to him; and although his
lady

lady had employed every address to smother his awakened suspicions, and that it was not now accounted very creditable to be in any sort of connections with the young *Caitbness*; yet that natural anxiety, which is ever the concomitant of jealousy, very much disposed the unsatisfied *Kyle* to admit of *Thursoe's* visit. *Anabella* happened to be with her Thane when the message was delivered; and although she shrewdly suspected what was to be the purport of it, yet her prudence directed her not to interfere in the answer, nor to appear to be in the least affected with the message: on the contrary, she assumed an unusual gaiety, and by every possible artifice, laboured to prepossess her husband with the most favourable opinion of her fidelity. In the mean while, she was not without the most uneasy cogitations: she could not doubt, but the incensed *Thursoe*, from resentment of slights from her, and the disgrace he had suffered by the hand of *Macbeth*, would provoke him to do them both every mischief his envenomed mind could contrive; but still she flattered herself, that unless he had corrupted her maid, who was singly in the secret of the assignation in question, he could not sustain any allegations against her, with the smallest degree of evidence. She was unwilling to tax
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her confidante with such an ugly suspicion of her fidelity; and yet, the more she thought on every circumstance, the more her doubts increased: she could not conceive what should have brought the assassins so precisely to the spot of assignation, if they had not been well directed to it; and as no other person but her maid could give such a direction, she at last determined to question her about it. She did so; and as it is repugnant to the nature of the meanest of human kind to confess the guilt of treachery, the maid endeavoured rather to evade than absolutely to deny the charge; which confirmed her mistress that she had been betrayed, and that the consequence would be her ruin. However, as it was the wisest course rather to expostulate with, than to reproach her upon that occasion, she played her cards so well, that, with tears of repentance, the maid confessed her fault; owned, that the bribes of *Thursoe* were too valuable to be resisted; that she did not foresee the fatal consequences it had been attended with; but, in fine, she prayed for her mistress's forgiveness; begged that she would not give way to such despondency, for she would exert all her skill, and did not doubt of succeeding, yet, to turn the cannon against the ungenerous *Thursoe*. The night, however, proved a
 very

very restless one to the fearful *Anabella*! Her peace, her reputation, were at stake, and with these, the credit and rising glory of the only man on earth she truly loved! The morning came, and to a moment of the appointed hour, *Thursoe* found his way to *Kyle's* apartment. They had not been many minutes together, before the maid is summoned to attend: she instantly obeyed, and the still doubting *Anabella* slipped into an adjoining room, there to listen to what should pass, and to determine, from what she might hear, whether to abide, or to fly from, the consequence. *Bella* (for so the maid was called) entered the room with great composure. The Thane prepared her for the importance of the affair: he told her, that he had always regarded her as a girl of great veracity; that a family affair, more interesting to him than life itself, was now the subject of deliberation; that it totally depended upon her testimony to obviate every remaining doubt: He desired her to hear attentively what the young Lord *Caithness* had to say to her, and, without fear or favour of any mortal, to be distinct and ingenuous in her answers, and that she might trust to his well known liberality for the reward of her honesty.--- The Thane having done, *Thursoe* next addressed himself, to this purpose;—
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“ The discovery, my dear *Bella*, which you made to me some weeks ago, of your lady’s intrigue with *Macbeth*, has lain so heavy on my conscience, that I could not rest until I had acquainted my honoured friend with the seduction of his wife, and the dishonour of his bed, by the treachery of that worthless man!—The lady of *Kyle* is indeed a tempting object; in the beauties of person, she’s an angel! What pity it is, that she was not also heavenly in her mind and manners? It is you, my faithful girl, that can best farther inform the noble Thane with what truths, touching his lady’s infidelity, it now so much concerns him to know.”

The maid, without the least symptom of fear, or change of countenance, resentfully replied, “ Surely, Sir, you are mad, and know not what you say! Is it like a man of noble blood, by such base and ungenerous aspersions, to revenge your slighted love, by accusing the virtuous *Anabella* of being guilty with another, because she detested you? What injustice is it to deny to her other beauties, that firmness of mind, of which you have had such full experience, by her preferring the settled and sincere affections of her aged Lord, to the less solid, but vicious addresses of a debauched youth? Is this a generous return for her
uncommon,

uncommon, tho' prudential, goodness, in not exposing you to the just resentment of her injured Thane? Oh! how it provokes me to think you could imagine, that this ring, with some other paultry presents which you made me, was intended to bribe me, either to betray my lady's honour, or accuse her of a crime her soul abhors!"—The exasperated *Thursoe* could hold no longer, but vehemently interrupted her with,—“Thou monster of a woman! is it possible that so much impudence and guilt can meet in one person? Was it not you who informed me of the assignation, on the fatal night which brought me to disappoint *Macbeth*, and save the honour of my friend? and had you not my gold for the intelligence?”——“True, Sir, (answered she) I had your gold, and will keep it too; but won't you blush when I dare tell you, in presence of my Lord, that it was given to entice me to let you enter silently the garden door, because you knew the Thane was absent? and because I knew, that if I acted such a foul part, I should for ever forfeit the favour, both of my Lord and Lady, I tried to put you off the scent, by telling you, that *Macbeth*, whom I was sure you feared and hated, sometimes amused himself in an evening behind these walls, with some damsels unknown to me; but which

was

was no more than an artifice, whereby without offending my mistress, I might secure your gold."—Never did artful woman better act her part than now did *Bella*. She not only preserved *Anabella's* peace and reputation, and confounded the growing jealousy of the old Thane; but by an adroitness peculiar to the well-trained *Abigails*, ingeniously accounted for *Macbeth's* being at the time and place when *Thursoe's* emissaries had found him!--*Thursoe* stared like one distracted; and although his breast was replete with wrath, he could not utter one syllable! The Thane of *Kyle*, between resentment and astonishment, at length as gravely as cuttingly, told him, That those prejudices which are natural in favour of a man of noble birth, would have inclined me to give preference to your evidence against a servant's, if the probabilities were equal; but as her's is supported by argument and good nature, whilst your's seems to have no other foundation but revenge and malevolence, I must undoubtedly reject it, and despise you for an injurious attempt to rob my faithful *Anabella* of her fame, and me of my happiness, for no other reason, than because she refused to sacrifice her virtue to your insidious and criminal addresses! Avaunt! be gone! infamous wretch! It is well for thee, that
thy

thy well-deserved wounds, not yet healed, protect thee from that chastisement which should be the due of so much audacity!-- So saying, he left him overwhelmed in agonies of confusion, giving orders to a servant to shew him out of his gates.

‘The re-animated *Anabella*, who had been an ear-witness of all that passed, met her artful *Abigail* with a thousand caresses; and immediately proceeding to the audience-chamber, she saluted her Thane with unaffected gaiety, not inclining to leave him too long alone, lest his revolving the several circumstances seriously in his mind, might, notwithstanding *Bella’s* well calculated evidence, leave some unfavourable impressions; which, in fact, happened to be the case: for although he could not directly condemn his wife, yet he now began to compare, with more exactitude than formerly, the youth, the bloom, the manly shape, the vigour, and, to sum up all, the flourishing prospect of *Macbeth’s* situation, opposed to the impotencies of age in every one of these regards; the consequence of which was, that he subjected himself to the alarms of perpetual suspicion; and became so much the more and more watchful over every motion of *Anabella*, that he rendered her life very irksome to her, and the stolen

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enjoyments of her paramour were now obtained at a most imminent risk to both.

‘ Delights, which are thus pursued contrary to decency, to reason, to religion, and to every rule of hospitality, are seldom permanent, and seldom terminate without the mark of some fatal catastrophe : so it was with this libidinous couple ; for having now no opportunity of gratifying their loose desires within doors, they resorted to a private corner in one of the gardens. *Macbeth* found means to scale the wall from without, whilst *Anabella* gave him the meeting from within ; and as their solacements were, for the most part, nocturnal, it happened, during one of their private interviews, that the old Thane being restless, missed his wife, and without calling up any servant, went in search of her : he thought of the garden, into which there being a passage through a glass door from the bathing-room, by a slight moveable stair-case, which, upon those occasional meetings, the cautious *Anabella* took care should always be removed, for fear of surprize : the unwary Thane not dreaming of such a precipitate Ha, ha, sought that inlet to the garden, and tumbled headlong into it ; there he lay motionless, until *Anabella* returning from her pleasures, was alarmed by the grumbling sound of last groans ! She re-entered the house
by

by another door, of which she kept the key ; she awaked her trusty *Bella*, but upon disclosing her suspicion of the fatal accident, the maid, warm as she was in the interest of the lovers, was so immensely shocked, that she shrieked aloud, and very much hazarded a discovery of the whole ! But the mistress, though also very much affected, had more command of herself, and urging their mutual safety to be the stake, she reasoned her maid into composure. They next consulted, as to what was fittest to be done in such a critical circumstance : they went into the garden, and found the unfortunate Thane, with his neck dislocated, just expired ! They removed again the occasional stair-case, and placing part of it across the Thane's body, and by the help of an iron bolt, distorting one of the fixing hooks, endeavoured to give the whole an appearance of accident. The maid next returned to her bed, whilst *Anabella* rung several times her bell. At length another maid got up, and coming to the lady's apartment, she was ordered to get a light, and to awake *Bella*, and at the same time asked if she had seen or heard any thing of the Thane ? *Bella* was now ordered to attend her mistress ; and candles being got, all the three searched over the house for their master, until arriving at the bathing-room,

they found the door into the garden unfolded; and *Anabella* observing that the steps were gone, affected a woeful shriek. They returned immediately, and then passed into the garden by the ordinary door; and coming into the walk under the bathing-room windows, they found the dead body of the Thane! The real lamentations of the ignorant servant, and the well dissembled grief of *Anabella*, and her other maid, gave the whole every appearance of chance. The men servants were now summoned up, and the Thane's body transported immediately into his chamber. Thus was the unhappy death of *Kyle*, which was truly the consequence of his wife's unlawful wantonness, imposed upon the world, as merely the effect of unlucky accident. For some days, however, she observed, with the greatest strictness, that sorrowful decorum, which is often dissembled, although sometimes real, usually paid to the *manes* of a deceased husband; but the still enamoured *Macbeth* prevented, by his now less interrupted visits, the effects from piercing her heart too deeply.

‘This intrigue, like most others of the same condemnable nature, began, however, sooner than *Anabella* wished or expected, to draw towards its eve.’

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The sketches originally written by *Angus*, and now delivered by *Edmund*, terminating here, the Thane himself resumed the narration.

‘ Self-flattery (continued he) is a natural companion of real love. *Anabella* loved *Macbeth* with uncommon ardour; she believed their passions were reciprocal; and indeed, hitherto, she had not much reason to doubt of it; but thereupon her imagination had formed a structure, which the foundation was never intended to sustain. She was in hopes, there being now no obstacle in the way, that *Macbeth*, in conformity to the many vows he had breathed upon her enchanting bosom, would supply the place of her deceased Thane, not only in one, but in every sense. She hoped to confine him perpetually to her arms; and assuming now more the dignity of a wife than the tameness of a mistress, she would sometimes appear inquisitive into the employment of those hours which were lost to her attention, and chide, if the accounts he gave of himself were not satisfactory. The temper of *Macbeth*, ever repugnant to discipline and restraint, or to any thing that bore the most distant resemblance of either, could by no means brook an attempt to fix by chains those pleasures, which he had

chaced with the keener appetite, because they were purchased with difficulties, and because he reckoned them unconfined; did by no means relish the insinuations which stole from *Anabella*, of her desiring to change the mode of their amour; besides, as another sort of ambition, which could be but little forwarded by a lady in *Anabella's* circumstances, began to occupy no small place in his active soul; the softer passions subsiding, made room for others of a more elevated nature.'

' At this critical juncture, *Margaretta*, daughter to the Chieftain of *Ross*, made her appearance at court: she was more graceful than lovely, and studied how she might rather command than court respect: her understanding was superior to most of her cotemporaries; and if she had no great share of personal delicacy, there were none of the court ladies that were, however, so remarkably distinguished for personal dignity: her manner, more than her beauty, attracted the attention of *Macbeth*, and the powerful connections of her family disposed his mind to an alliance which could so effectually cherish his ambition. The lady, on her part, discovered charms in the manly deportment of *Macbeth*, which, in his favour, wrought equal impressions in her aspiring breast. To be short, their dispositions

sitions seemed to be so aptly fitted to one another, that it was not long ere they mutually communicated their respective approbations; and the lately so delightful *Anabella*, with all the beauty which symmetry of features, gentleness of soul, and engaging affability, could make a woman lovely, was now abandoned by the only man she had ever sincerely loved, and all to make room for another lady, greatly inferior to her in almost every attraction which usually captivates, and often secures the admiration of mankind. Think of *Anabella*, ye fair charmers, whenever your virtue is besieged by deluding men!—to whose seducing wiles you are so often inveigled to sell, with your virtue, all that peace of mind which can best support you through every vicissitude of life, and by the loss of which you subject yourselves to be slighted by those very paramours, to whose pleasures your every faculty have been exerted.’

‘*Macbeth* was now under a necessity of directing his addresses in a manner entirely new to him; the formal advances towards the matrimonial point must guide his conduct. It is true, he had almost no difficulties to surmount; the desires of both the parties were influenced more by ambition, and a thirst for dominion, than by love. The

The active mind of *Macbeth* was ever soaring beyond the limits of his present condition ; and he began to fancy, that by being so closely linked with the most powerful, as well as most popular party, a passage would open to him, through which he might gain even a prospect of the Crown. The Lady's soul kept pace with his in every aspiring imagination ; and the birth, the fortune, and, above all, the personal endowments of *Macbeth*, were too conspicuous, not to make his applications welcome with the Thane of *Ross* : so that this match was hardly sooner proposed, than cheerfully agreed upon, and a day for the celebration fixed.

‘ In consequence of this matrimonial treaty, the affair of the young *Caithefs* was resumed with redoubled ardour, and all the address of his father could not any longer obtain a delay of trial ; but, how soon the day was appointed for it, and known to every body, the now slighted Dowager of *Kyle* sent such a message to *Macbeth*, as shook all his resolution ; she threatened, at the expence of her own fame, to appear, with her maid, and give such a turn to the face of that business, as should greatly embarrass the prosecuting party, cast no small degree of blame upon *Macbeth*, and, at least, extenuate the guilt of *Tursoe*. This message
did

did not a little perplex our hero; and to prevent any bad effects of it, he judged it highly expedient to renew his visits to the fair, enraged *Anabella*: he had admittance, but was received with such severe, just, and well-seasoned reproach, as greatly disconcerted him: he trusted so entirely to the passionate feelings he knew *Anabella* to entertain for him, that he thought he had only to revive in her, by his presence and caresses, those flames which he flattered himself were yet unextinguished, and thereby lay asleep all her menaced resentment; but *Anabella* had so well fortified herself against the force of his expected artillery, that the task was much more difficult than he imagined. In vain did he renew professions of love, and even of fidelity: she continued, in appearance, unmoved, and treated his advances to embrace her with that disdain which they deserved. A newly assumed determinedness and dignity which she put on upon that occasion, so different from what he conceived her gentle disposition to be capable of, as if she had been a new object, actually inspired him with a new passion for her, and made him wish for the moment that she had been daughter to the Thane of *Ross*. This new-raised flame of his was not unperceived by *Anabella*; and those well experienced emotions
which

which now shook every nerve of him, became more prevalent over the resolution of the still enamoured charmer, than millions of verbal asseverations. In short, he succeeded to his wishes, and once more feasted in transports, which he had never known so completely in the embraces of another. The amorous treaty being over, and *Anabella* thereby better disposed to listen to soothing argumentation, he endeavoured to persuade her, that he truly loved none but her; that the late distance he had observed towards her, was an unwilling sacrifice he had made to the suspicions of *Margaretta*; that his addresses at that quarter were merely political, and not from inclination; that his future views were founded in them, and could not be supported without the concurrence of that family. He talked slightly and contemptibly of matrimony, as an unnecessary confirmation of what was, by inclination, more solemnly imprinted in their inmost souls: that it was respect for her reputation which prevented his ever hearkening to marriage propositions with her, as it would have furnished a handle to their enemies to magnify the suspicions which had been already propagated by the favourers of *Caithness*; and, in fine, that although his name and politics were to be united by matrimony in the family of *Ross*,
he

he vowed that his heart should continue unalterably devoted to his charming *Anabella*. The strong impressions which those endearments so recently renewed between them, operated so effectually upon the credulous mind of *Anabella*, that she swallowed all this sophistry with approbation, and gained her over to a thorough reconciliation. *Macbeth* was happy in his success, and for once more took his leave of her with a cordial affection.

‘ There remaining now no obstruction to the prosecution of *Thursoe*, the trial was brought on ; a pardon was obtained for the villains he had employed in the assassination ; and by their evidence corroborating mine, he was convicted of the base crime imputed to him ; he was sentenced to lose his head. But the artful *Macbeth*, anxious to found his rise on popularity, as well as power, interceded himself, that the judgment might be converted from death to banishment : he easily obtained his suit ; and in conformity thereto, the unfortunate *Thursoe* was condemned to depart for the Isles within a fortnight, and there to remain an exile during the King’s pleasure.

‘ Amongst the partisans of *Caitbness*, there was one *Macduald*, who had a vast influence in the Isles, was of an enterprising genius, and being disgusted by neglect, had

had conceived a settled antipathy against *Macbeth*. Many of the *Caithness* faction gave *Thurloe* the convoy of a day's journey ; but this *Macduald*, with some of his followers, proposed to accompany him quite to the place of exile, intending, with the son of the lately revered *Caithness* at their head, to stir up the Islanders, who were of themselves very formidable, to commotion ; and by their means, and such a junction as might be hoped for from amongst the other malecontents, to create such a disturbance as might enable him to gratify his revenge, not against *Macbeth* and his party only, but against the King himself, as we shall see by and by.

‘ In the mean time, preparations were going forward to solemnize, with every magnificence, the marriage of *Macbeth*, which was celebrated in presence of the King, and a most splendid court. Soon after which, the Thane of *Caithness* seeing no sort of hope of regaining either respect or interest at court, bethought him of exerting his abilities upon some other plan. He was possessed of a very extensive and well peopled estate in the North ; and the *Thanes* of *Nairn* and *Sutherland*, whose properties lay not very distant from his, and who were also the superiors of a people as turbulent as they were potent, who had
closely

closely adhered to him in all his ministerial measures, and who now shared in his disgrace; these Chieftains he inspired with the like discontents which preyed upon himself: them he persuaded to forsake the Lowlands, and to accompany him to the North, that they might first sound, and then try to enflame the minds of their respective clans; and, according to the encouragement they should meet with, and the strength they could muster, to form a project of revenging themselves upon their enemies. These three Thanes set out accordingly, attended by a numerous retinue of their dependants.

‘ Mean while, the busy *Macduald*, carrying in his hand the banished *Thursoe* through the western islands, produced him amongst these people, as a distinguished mark of those despotic and tyrannical measures, under which he said the greatest part of *Scotland* was then groaning; and making them believe, that unless a timely and strenuous opposition was formed, oppression, misery and massacres, would very soon be extended as far as the Isles, when it should be past their power to help themselves. These seditious measures had a wonderful effect; these uninformed people, like the lowermost class of every other country, have ears always more open to

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scandal than to encomiums, upon the actions of their betters; and a malignant emissary will ever find it an easier task to promote disturbance and insurrection, by the means of calumny, and abuse of those in power, than a benevolent agent will find it, to dispose the same rank of men to stand forth in defence of a conduct the most laudable. Men of bad hearts can, with more facility, disguise themselves, than men of upright, incorruptible principles: *These* wish to sustain an uniformity of character, and therefore cannot descend to huzza with a misguided multitude; whilst *those*, having no dignity to support, nor reputation to lose, can level themselves with the meanest of a mob, to gain numbers to their faction. In this shape it was that *Macduald* was so extremely successful: the cry of the Islanders was now, No *Ross*! no *Macbeth*!—and, at length, No King!—*Macduald* and Liberty for ever! *Macduald* having thus completely fitted the most turbulent of his people for rebellion, their numbers increased every day, many conjoining to them, not from any real approbation of the motives, but from regard to their own lives and properties; for the insurgents having no controul in these parts, and ~~having~~ usurped the princely authority, there was no safety but in mixing with
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them; and by that means, (which will for ever be the consequence of lawless commotion) abundance of people suffered in the end, who had been induced by terror, not by inclination, to join themselves to the rebellious standard,

‘ The Court got intelligence of these outrageous motions, and of the descent which the insurgents were preparing to make into the main land; *Macbeth* and *Bancho* were therefore chosen immediately to lead an army of the best troops of the kingdom to give the insurgents a check; and, if possible, to prevent their being joined by the partisans of *Caithness*, *Nairn* and *Sutherland*, who by this time had also procured a considerable force; and could they have effected a conjunction, their united strength might have become very troublesome.

‘ The divisions commanded by *Macbeth* and *Bancho* rendezvoused at *Inverness*, and found the people in that neighbourhood under the most terrible apprehensions of the threatened descent of the Islanders; but *Macdual* knew too well what he was about, to quit the Isles, before he should get some reason to believe that some part of the *Caithness* force was ready to support his landing; and he had no sort of apprehension

hension that the King's troops would be risked in the Isles.

‘ It was concerted between *Macbeth* and *Bancho*, that the latter should proceed with 2,500 men, to line the shore opposite to *Caitkness* and *Sutherland*, and thereby interrupt their getting into *Ross-shire*; whilst *Macbeth*, with the main army, should march towards the Western Islands. He received intelligence, that all the strength of the Rebels was to be collected at *Skie*, there to wait until they should receive some news from *Caitkness*, thereupon to disperse by different parties, and to land at once in so many different places, as to prevent the army from fixing its attention to any one spot, till it should be proper for them to re-assemble, and to form into one body, with their allies from *Caitkness* and *Sutherland*, who, they thought, would have little difficulty to make good their landing.

‘ *Macbeth* could guess pretty nearly at the numbers of the Islanders; he knew he was more completely armed than they could be, and imagined, if he could salute them with a visit of surprise, he should enjoy an easy enough conquest: he therefore collected together all the sea-boats upon the coast, which, however, were not half sufficient for his embarkation: he waited for a favourable evening, and intrepidly ventured
himself

himself to sea with about 1500 of the best troops, leaving the rest under the command of a kinsman, named *Kymmin*, (a) to follow how soon he could send back the boats. The passage was but short, and in favourable weather, could be performed in four or five hours. He set sail about seven in the evening, and managed it so, that a few boats, which were of the same fashion with those of the *Skie* boats, should first gain the island, to prevent any spies from being alarmed by their numbers, to make a rummage amongst the shore, and to secure every living person they should meet with, so as to prevent intelligence. These advanced boats got footing on the island before 11 o'clock; they did as they were ordered, and had made, of old men, women and children, about 40 prisoners. About half an hour after, *Macbeth*, with his strange sort of fleet, arrived: he debarked his people with the utmost expedition, and instantly sent back the boats to the other coast.

(a) Probably the ancestor of the ancient, and afterwards so numerous name of *Cumin*, now subdivided into a variety of different modes of writing it, such as *Cummin*, *Cumminn*, *Comyns*, *Cumming*, &c. a conjecture the more natural, that it is said they retain in *Scotland*, at this day, the pronunciation of that name, as if written *Kymmin*, and not *Cumming*.

They continued in a silent and defensive position during the night; and learning from the prisoners that the collected strength of the Rebels was near two miles distant, he hoped his plan would succeed to his mind. When day-light appeared, he divided his people, and disposed of them in so many distinct conspicuous places, that the enemy might be able to form no certain opinion of their strength, or, more properly, of their weakness. He saw nothing till towards six in the morning, that could in the least alarm him. About that time several scouting parties were observed reconnoitring, but quickly disappeared; and by and by he perceived a detached few, seven or eight persons, advancing near to him: he was sure they could mean no hostility, and therefore he shewed a readiness to welcome them. These were a few of the peaceable people, who had been pressed, contrary to their inclinations, to join the rebellious standard: from them he understood, that *Macduald's* number amounted to between 3 and 4000, the half of whom, they imagined, would be, like themselves, glad to abandon the insurgents, if they could find a favourable opportunity. Soon after this, *Macbeth* descried the main body of *Macduald's* party marching along the declivity of a hill, and endeavouring,

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as he conjectured, to possess themselves of a very advantageous ground, which they had but just gained, when he could also discover the boats returning with *Kymmin's* division, within half an hour's sail of the beach. The same discovery had been also made, much about the same time, by the enemy, who, in hopes to harraßs them in their landing, profited of a hill which covered part of his people from the observation of *Macbeth*. He ordered about four hundred of his most resolute people, under the command of a very daring kinsman, to file off by the farther side of the hill, and to endeavour, unperceived, to gain the beach. *Kymmin* descried their approach, and guessing at their design, he hurried the landing of as many of his men as might be able to make a diversion, and cover the landing of the rest, until he should think himself strong enough to make an offensive attack. This manœuvre he executed with great prudence, and very little loss; and indeed it was of great consequence; for although, with the handful that were landed, he might have given them the slip, and got within signals of *Macbeth*, yet he must in that case have left his empty boats in their power, and the largest part of his division, still unlanded, must have re-taken themselves to sea, and hazarded the effects
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of a gale of wind, which then seemed to threaten them. His defence was the easier, that the enemy durst not push him beyond a certain limit, for fear of exposing their attempt to the view of *Macbeth*, an advantage which *Kymmin* managed so well, that while he continued skirmishing, the bulk of his command made good their landing, and thereupon the *Macdualds* began to retire. *Kymmin* was under a necessity of pursuing them, because had he left them, and proceeded towards *Macbeth*, he should have left his miniature of a fleet a prey to the enemy. He pursued so close, that the enemy took shelter in an old fort on a declivity of the hill, which in front was impregnable to the force of arms used in these days : he therefore endeavoured to gain the back side of it, which in a short time he effected ; but this part being secured by a wall of such thickness, and although not very high, yet being built in such an oblique manner, that there was no such thing as climbing it up ; and as they had no sort of materials by which they could raise any kind of counter parapet, he was on the point of communicating his situation to *Macbeth*, when, in the course of his perambulations, he discovered, between that and another contiguous hill, a very fertile plain, naturally, and almost entirely overgrown with
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the plant known by the name Cumin : he set his people instantly to work upon this field ; they pulled up and bundled into sheaves great quantities of this plant, by piling up of which against the back wall of the castle, they formed an easy ascent, and by that means (a) a sufficient number mounted upon it, and descending, sword in hand, into the body of the fort, charged so briskly the surprised enemy, that most of them were either slaughtered within the walls, or exposed to no better a fate, when, by opening the front passages, they sought their flight through the parties that were posted there. Some stragglers having, however, escaped to the main body, and informed *Macduald* of the misadventure of that detachment, he was seized with the utmost consternation, and by his irregular and confused movements, the dilemma he was brought to was too obvious not to be perceived by the watchful *Macbeth*, who was by this time informed by messengers from *Kymmin*, of the circumstances which

(a) It is not very absurd to imagine, with some of that name, that the *garbes* in the field of the arms of *Cumming*, &c. have an allusion to that era of antiquity, and represent rather three sheaves of the plant Cumin, than three corn sheaves, as commonly understood.

had so long retarded their junction; upon which he immediately made a motion, as if to advance against them with his whole force: this motion, however, he executed with great deliberation, as he intended it only to procure a farther prospect of their increasing confusion, and to give the better opportunity for deserters to come in. *Kymmin* having now joined him, he formed a plan of extending part of his forces alongst the skirts of the island, to prevent the heads of the cabal from escaping by sea, in case they should, when hard drove, think of such an attempt; whilst he, with about no more than 1000 chosen men, continued to march slowly after the chief body of rebels. This plan had an excellent effect; it cut off all hopes from the Rebels of any reinforcements; it not only prevented all hopes of escaping, but the detached parties intercepted, for the use of his own troops, such provisions as *Macduald* had commanded to be brought from the contiguous small islands; and there was an opening every where for the discontented of the insurgents to join the royal party at pleasure; and in fact, the desertion from the Rebels was so great, that *Macduald* was not now above 800 strong: with these, who were chiefly kinsmen, or altogether dependants on himself, he judged it in vain to risk a battle; and

and *Macbeth* thinking it proper, by this time, to make the signal agreed upon for the conjunction of all his out-detachments, *Macduald* offered to capitulate ; but as *Macbeth* would give him no other terms than to surrender at discretion ; from the consequence of which, as he hoped for no mercy, he betook himself, with his friends, to another old castle, which was, for those days. indifferently well fortified. In this fortress he defended himself with great resolution for some days, till seeing at length that it was to no purpose any longer to oppose such superior force, he submitted to the instances of his followers, and agreed to surrender ; but with the same breath by which he gave orders to open the gates, neither chusing to ask, nor expecting mercy from *Macbeth*, he fell upon his own sword, and expired before the enemy got possession of the castle ; and the young *Caithness*, who had not the resolution of a *Macduald*, fell a sacrifice to the desperation of some of *Macduald*'s kinsmen, who imputed to him the cause of all their calamity. Now it was that *Macbeth* had the first opportunity of giving a sign of that cruelty, which, by his actions since, appears to have been at all times the latent possessor of his breast : he was as immoveable to the pitiable submission of the conquered, as he stood obstinate
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against the intercessions of *Kymmin*, and many others of the officers, who were for extending some degree of clemency: he argued, that they were a stubborn, seditious people; that there was no confidence to be put in them; that they would, upon another occasion, be just as ready for a revolt as they had been before; and as the island lay so remote from the inland, they might find subsequent occasions of being troublesome, when disturbances in other parts should make it inconvenient to send troops to subdue them. From such a manner of reasoning, there was room to conjecture, that at that period he began to found in his own mind the base of his future operations, and to preclude, by extirpation, these unhappy people from being any interruption to him, when he should be in action elsewhere. He began his severity, by ordering the head of the dead *Macduald* to be cut off upon a public scaffold; and, to be short, the whole garrison were put to death by one means or other. The body of young *Gaitbnefs*, indeed, he ordered should be buried, that he might thereby shun the imputation of personal revenge: and leaving a few of his own kinsmen, of the name of *Macdonald*, to be masters of the island, with injunctions to them to pick and chuse from amongst the women those who were most

most agreeable to them, and to transport the rest to other places; he prepared to embark his army.

‘ During these transactions in *Skie*, *Bancho* had subdued, more by treaty than by conquest, the Chiefs of *Cnithness*, *Sutherland* and *Nairn*, who having seen all chance cut off of any communication with the *Macdualds*, were very ready to submit to any terms which *Bancho* should demand; and accordingly, to prevent his farther incursions upon them, they, at his desire, sent him hostages, as a security for their inoffensive conduct during the space of twelve months.

‘ *Bancho* waited the arrival of *Macbeth* at *Inverness*, from whence they both proceeded to the Court, then at *St. Johnstoun*, or *Perth*, and were welcomed with every mark of approbation. They had enjoyed but a few days of congratulation, when a more serious affair demanded their attention, and required the united wisdom, as well as strength, of the whole kingdom, to form an opposition to. The *Danes* had lately invaded *England*, and, unknown to the Court of *Scotland*, it had been at the same time concerted, That, to prevent the *Scotch* from affording any assistance to *England*, the *Norwegians* should, about the same time, make an attempt upon *Scotland*; and the first notice of their arrival

was by the appearance of a very formidable fleet in the *Firth of Forth*, under the command of *Sveno* king of *Norway* himself, and who, without any interruption, had made good a landing on the coast of *Fife*. *Macbeth*, as the most active, and now the most powerful person about court, was quickly commissioned to make a tour thro' the most popular counties, with a general summons for all degrees of men to attend the King's standard, in defence of their country, their families, lives and fortunes: this service he performed with great expedition and success. In the mean time, the King, with *Bancho*, were to endeavour, with what force they could hastily get together, and the reinforcements which came daily from *Macbeth*, to advance towards the enemy, and to keep them in play by skirmishing, in order to gain time. But the King, who soon tired of action, did not know exactly the strength of the *Norwegians*, and who placed an unreasonable confidence in the prowess of his handful of men, insisted, contrary to the advice of *Bancho*, to advance, and hazard an engagement, rather than suffer the enemy to penetrate into the heart of the kingdom, as the *Danes* had done in *England*. Accordingly he gave them battle; and although *Bancho*, both by conduct and bravery, distinguished himself

himself as an able commander, yet with considerable loss, but no dishonour, they were obliged to quit the field, and to make good a retreat to *Pertb*.

‘ *Macbeth*, in a few days, joined them at *Pertb*; and if they had not suffered so considerably in their first rash attempt, they might, by this time, have formed a very different sort of resistance. The natural consequence of success in war never fails to inspire the conquerors with fresh vigour; and the *Norwegians*, who now lived on plenty, and quite recovered of the fatigue and indisposition which attended their voyage, became ten times more formidable than they were at their first landing. *Macbeth*, who had the most comprehensive eye of most men living, rode out in disguise to reconnoitre; and judging, from the numbers and situation of the *Norwegians*, that with all the force the King yet could collect, it would be very hazardous to risk a decisive engagement; and apprehending, that from the vicinity of the *Caithness* and *Sutherland* country to *Norway*, in case of a total defeat, that then the vicegerency of *Scotland* might fall into the hands of these discontented Chiefs, he advised in council to gain time, by proposing to treat of a peace. This motion was approved, and I was named, as the properest member of

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the council to be employed in this negotiation; in consequence of which, I set out, with proper attendants, for the army of the *Norwegians*. A parley being beat, and admittance granted to the presence of *Sweno*, I counterfeited such an air of submission and despondency, that *Sweno*, as well as every officer about him, concluded that the conquest of the *Scots* would be a very easy affair. I pathetically represented to him, how inutile it would be to promote an effusion of blood, since the *Scots*, conscious of their inequality to the present dispute, wanted only to dispose him to offer them favourable terms of accommodation. He asked me, if the King my master had furnished me with the substance of such conditions as he hoped for; I obsequiously answered him, That the King my master, too sensible to his present low circumstances, did not presume to demand, but confided in the generosity of the *Norwegians* to propose such articles as to him might be acceptable. Such humility greatly flattered the *Norwegian* pride; he told me, That he immediately wanted some liquors for the better refreshment of his troops; he required, that I should instantly dispatch a messenger with orders, that his army might that very day be supplied with as much wine, spirits and ale, as could possibly be spared

spared from the other ; said, he would call a council that afternoon, to deliberate upon such terms as he would tender to the *Scots*, and send me home in the evening with a duplicate. I seemed happy with the success of my negociation, dispatched immediately a messenger to the King, requesting, that a moment might not be delayed in sending to the camp of the *Norwegians* the liquors demanded ; upon which dispatches I affixed a certain seal, well known to *Macbeth*, and which imported, that some unusual stratagem was to be exerted. Perhaps you, my friends and deliverer, with others of scrupulous honour, will censure this suggestion, as unjust, and not strictly consistent with the fair rules of war ; that nicety I did revolve in my own mind, and reconciled myself to the difficulty, upon these considerations ; That the enemies were unprovoked invaders ; that they had in a hostile manner entered the kingdom, in contravention of subsisting treaties ; and that having commenced hostilities contrary to the law of nations, they had no right to be treated as an open and declared enemy. That if we could subdue them by artifice, we should certainly preserve the lives of many of our own subjects ; and as the design was not to destroy, but to render them inactive, we should even have it in our

power to save numbers of theirs. Be this as it may, *Macbeth* was too quick not to profit of the hint; he immediately prepared soporificks, and, to the knowledge of as few as possible, he mixed with a proper quantity of the infusion, every cask of the liquors that were to be sent. Toward night the impatiently expected escort arrived with these liquors, and the impatient *Norwegians* sucked in the sleepy draughts with great intemperance. How soon the liquors were delivered, tasted and approved, *Sweno's* secretary delivered me his preliminary articles for a treaty; the first of which being, that the *Scots* King, with his whole army, should next day march, without any sort of arms, and deliver themselves up at the *Norwegian* camp, to the mercy of King *Sweno*; I need not enter into the rest. I took my leave, and returned with the escort to *Perth*. By this time the valiant men from *Argyleshire*, with the noble Thane at their head, had arrived, and now the army of *Duncan* made no inconsiderable figure. They were already in order of battle, and waited only for my return, to proceed in three divisions, commanded by *Macbeth*, *Bancho* and *Argyle*, so as to assault the enemy before day-light next morning. The opiate had had so fully its effect, that *Macbeth's* division was in the heart of the enemy,

enemy, and had made a terrible slaughter before two-thirds of them were awaked to their danger. Happily for *Sweno*, there had been some few near his person, who never drinking strong liquors, were enough in their senses to throw him, intoxicated as he was, across a horse, and hurry off with him towards the sea-side, and had just time to get him and themselves on board a small vessel, before a detachment sent after them could overtake them. The rest of this sleepy army became an easy prey; and it grieves my soul to relate the dreadful effusion of blood which attended this victory; for *Macbeth*, *Bancho*, and almost every Chief, concurring in opinion, that *Canutus*, King of the *Danes*, who was next neighbour, and in strict alliance with *Sweno*, would, as soon as the affairs between him and the *English* should be adjusted, endeavour next to revenge the affront given to *Sweno*, by another attempt upon *Scotland*; the Chiefs, I say, all agreed, that it would be a dangerous measure, by preserving the unhappy *Norwegians*, to entertain so great a number of enemies within the kingdom. Although the determination, upon which so many miserable wretches must suffer death, is shocking to human nature to think of, yet the *Scotch* were not mistaken in their conjecture; for in less than two months,

months, the Court received information, that a numerous *Danish* fleet had been espied at sea, steering towards *Aberdeen*. As the last army had not yet been much dispersed, they were soon re-collected, and marched with all expedition toward the coast of *Aberdeen*. The *Danes* had but just landed, when *Macbeth* and *Bansho*, again at the head of this army, still flushed with success, fell upon them with such precipitation, that they never got time to form; the one half of them were cut to pieces, and the other half happy to regain their ships.

‘ Thus, the *Norwegians* and *Danes* having been both so terribly handled in *Scotland*, they were cooled of any farther designs against that kingdom, which now began to wear the face of peace and prosperity. But as that internal security left too little for ambitious and active spirits to be employed in, their heads were turned upon more selfish objects; and the uncontrouled actions of the *Ross* faction were now regardless of either right or wrong, any farther than as their proper interests were to be advanced by the one or by the other. They threw off even the disguise of acting for the public weal; and the whole nation observing that its wealth and honours were likely to be all amassed into that one family and its dependencies, a general discontent

content prevailed, and in a very little time the *Rossian* faction became more odious than at any time had been that of *Caithness*.

‘ The Thane of *Ross* had too much penetration not to perceive it to be his interest to gratify every wish that could rise in the heart of *Macbeth*; flattering himself, that as the affairs of civil administration did not seem at all to tempt the inclinations of *Macbeth*, he had nothing more to do than to keep him from being disgusted, to make sure of his support; and with the support of *Macbeth*, who had been so signally successful in all his enterprizes, he thought he might domineer over every body else. Such a voracious appetite for power, founded too in avarice, could not fail of promoting almost a general aversion; and the odium against him grew to such a height, that from secret disapprobation, it arose to public murmurings.

‘ The spies of *Caithness* continued, from time to time, to communicate to him every transaction about the court; and as they rather aggravated than lessened the pictures of discontentedness, that sagacious Thane judged it no improper juncture for him and his friends to show themselves once more upon the theatre of action: accordingly *Caithness*, with his fast friends, the *Thanes of Sutherland and Nairn*, returned to court; and

and the too indolent King being daily teased with the cry of grievances which he had not spirit to enquire into, and hardly one courtier of any consequence about him to whose consideration he dared to recommend them, he was at this time very happy in the return of these lords. The welcome they were received with, very much alarmed the *Rossians*, and political disputers, who should have the ruling of the roast, for that, as in other more modern courts, was the only match to the flame, were renewed with great violence and inveteracy on both sides. The many public complaints which had been for some time stifled, now issued to the light, and in the beginning gave great advantage to the *Caithness* interest, who already began, as the custom is, to turn out and in, to make room for their own dependants. But as maugre dear bought experience, they could not divest themselves of that insolence by which they had formerly forfeited the affections of the people, the warmth with which they were at first supported, did not promise a long continuance ; *Ross* and his adherents had the address to pick our pockets with a courteous bow, and the smile of complaisance, whilst those of *Caithness* pursued the same ends, but with the less tolerable comportment of pride and insolence. They behaved

as if, without giving you cause to complain, they had a right to oppress you.

‘ *Macbeth*, during these contentions, steered with great dexterity between the two parties. *Caithness*, sensible to *Macbeth*’s capacity and influence when he had a mind to employ them, appeared to have smothered every former resentment, and laboured indefatigably to win him to his interest : and what was surprizing, considering the atchievements he had already performed, it neither having entered into the head of the King nor of *Ross* to dignify *Macbeth* with any honourable title, *Caithness* was the first who had the merit of proposing in council, that *Macbeth*, as an acknowledgment of his great services, should be created Thane of *Murray*.

‘ It was on the same day that *Caithness* made that popular motion in council, that *Macbeth* himself communicated to me the account of a vision he pretended to have been visited with the preceding evening.

‘ Ruminating (said he) last night in my garden, upon the party distractions which divide the Chiefs of this kingdom, without ever consulting about any measures that can tend to make the subjects either happier, or the nation itself less contemptible, I was, by the gentle murmurs of that purling brook which glides through it, and the softening
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even songs of drowsy birds, invited to repose: I had slumbered but a short while, when methought, after a voice like distant thunder, not noisy but awful, and a prospect of lightening, not glancing nor frightful, but permanent and shining, there appeared before me three most angelic female figures, whose loose garments resembled the waving beams of the sun, and whose heads seemed encircled with crowns of celestial glory. The first, in passing, saluted me with--All hail to *Macbeth*, Thane of *Murray*! The second, All hail to *Macbeth*, Thane of *Glamis*! And the third, All hail to *Macbeth*, King of *Scotland*! Whether there was any such vision or no, no body can determine, but his ambitious wife, to whom, as to me, he had related it, quickly raised upon it the diabolic structure, which from that moment she pressed him to execute with so much vehemence. It has been, I imagine, upon the foundation of that vision, that the ridiculous story was invented of his having been, in the same language, saluted by three witches, whom he visibly met in a forest in the middle of a day; and howsoever much the fiction of the witches may be better imagined, as better corresponding with the tyrannical conduct which followed it; yet I will vouch this dream, as now told by me, to be as it was related by

by himself, long before the story of the witches was ever heard of; and I now consider it to have been nothing else than the effects of his perpetual thoughts, which incited him to form such a dream, to the end that he might observe the impressions which these epithets carried with them upon the minds of those who heard them.

‘ I am, venerable *Glamis*, (continued *Angus*) the more particular in recapitulating these circumstances, that, although you was not altogether a stranger to them, yet, as your disapprobation of the measures of all parties, disposed you, even at that period, to court retirement, and as you could receive information from none, but who, influenced either by the one faction or the other, would represent them under such false colours as were most for the advantage of the party they leaned to; so, now that I am no doubt divested of every temptation to partiality, and had better access than almost any other person to know the several movements, you will probably be the better enabled to form an useful judgment upon the whole.—*Glamis* approved, and *Angus* proceeded.

‘ It was about the time I last spoke of, that you may recollect, there intervened That third party to whom you was inclined

to join yourself. This was headed by *Archibald*, the noble Thane of *Argyle*, and who unquestionably offered his services to administration from motives truly patriotic. His family was respectable, his adherents numerous, and by that influence, sustained by an excellent understanding, and principles of unbounded generosity, he flattered himself with being able, by advising an equal distribution of honours, not regarding names, but the qualities of the persons, to operate a reconciliation of parties, and that all should combine in one, and that one exert itself for the public prosperity. *Macbeth* had discernment enough to see that a person of *Argyle's* power and candid intentions would soon become very popular; and *Argyle* having a more favourable opinion of *Macbeth's* principles than you, *Glamis*, rather sought than shunned a connection with him; *Macbeth*, on his part, appeared to espouse very warmly every proposition that came from *Argyle*; although he was at the same time secretly managing the weak King in such a manner as to obstruct, or at least to delay the execution of every salutary scheme, to the end that he might rather aggravate than suffer to abate that mean opinion which the nobles and gentry in general had long entertained of the unfortunate King. In short, by that confidence

confidence which the *Argathelian* party put into *Macbeth*, and the countenance of those friends which he artfully contrived to preserve amongst the others, he had now a much more splendid court than the neglected *Duncan* himself. At these councils it began to be whispered, that the evils into which the indolent reign of *Duncan* had involved the nation, were become so obstinate, that a thorough redress could hardly be hoped for under the government of a Prince so weak in understanding, so fickle in disposition, and so irresolute in the execution of the best purposes; that in fine, these inconveniencies were arrived to such a pitch, that to surmount them required a King of a daring spirit, and of a resolution not to be daunted or diverted. This was the very doctrine which *Macbeth* laboured to inculcate, and upon which he formed the approaches to his future grandeur. It became so much an adopted maxim of all or most of the nobles, that although none of them chose to hasten it, yet every one wished for the King's death; but there being no great likelihood of that, some of them ventured to talk of deposing him, others to advise him to resign voluntarily.

‘ *Caithness*, ever watchful to such motions as he imagined he could, by one means or other, turn to his own purposes, gave a

hint to the King of the deliberations of the patriotic cabal, and advised him immediately to create his eldest son, *Malcolm*, although but a boy, governor of *Cumberland*, which had, during the several preceding reigns, been reckoned a necessary, and the next step to the crown. This he advised, not only with the view of ingratiating himself with the King, but with the hopes of becoming a sort of regent there during the Prince's minority, and by that measure to gain additional strength to his own power.

‘ The King actually proposed in council, that his son *Malcolm* should be appointed governor of *Cumberland*; and, without suggesting any body, he added, that how soon the patent was made out, he would name a proper person or persons to be his guardian and assistant in the executive part; as to which, by the advice of *Caithness*, it was his intention to consult the Queen's father, *Sibert*, Duke of *Northumberland*, whom *Caithness* had pre-occupied in his interest.

‘ The Patriots knew well, that such a proposal had not come spontaneously from the King, but that for certain it must be the scheme of some more active head, in order to disconcert the projects of the new cabal. They were a good deal alarmed, and were of all things anxious to discover
who

who amongst them could be the person artful and daring enough to throw such a plausible obstruction in the road of their designs. This discovery *Macbeth* flattered himself he should be able to make, not by appearing jealous or inquisitive, but by briskly soliciting the King, in the event of such a patent, that he, as nearest of kin, should be appointed governor to the young Prince. The King was prepared for the demand, and for once in his life, had the resolution to keep his secret, and evaded giving a direct answer, by telling *Macbeth*, that he was not insensible to the preference which was due both to his birth and merit, but that as he had written for it, he was determined to come under no engagements until he had the advice of his father-in-law the Duke of *Northumberland*. The unusual resolution shewn by the King upon this critical occasion, was more touching to *Macbeth* than all the effect of the intended appointment, and spurred him on to hasten the determinations of the cabal: pleased, however, that the King, by thus having refused him one of the first requests he had ever personally made in his life, had furnished him with a handle for not acting in concert with him. A general meeting of the Nobles, or Patriots, as they called themselves, were soon convened, at which

Caithness attended amongst the rest. They entered warmly upon the uncertain situation of affairs. *Argyle* observed, how dangerous it was for any nobleman to risk his honour and reputation in the service of the public, whilst he could not be one day assured but the very best calculated projects would be defeated the next, by the changeableness of the King's temper: that for his part, he would take no share in any administration that was not established upon a more solid basis; and boldly concluded, that although no man present had a more loyal and sincere affection for the person of the King than himself, yet as he had never esteemed him to be well qualified for governing, and that as it was no new thing in that kingdom to set aside or suspend for a time the executive power of a King, for the evident advantage and better security of the public, he desired to submit it, whether *Duncan's* Royal authority might not be suspended, and placed in the hands of some other, whom the majority of the Nobles should judge to be the best qualified.

Macbeth spoke next, and, with all the art of an experienced orator, declaimed upon the affecting sensibility with which he had long beheld the King his kinsman's infirmities: that he had always been obedient to the call of his country when the assistance

sistance of his arms were required; but that as affection for the King made him reluctant to censure his mode of government, he had very rarely assisted at councils: that it was with sorrow he had to observe, there was yet some unrevealed measure of the King's in agitation, which threatened a deeper wound to the independency and constitution of the nation than any that had hitherto come to light, which was no less than a scheme to over-awe *Scotland* and its Nobles by the power of *English* interposition; and thereby, continued he, we shall become no better than a dependency! a province! to that better governed kingdom! If there's any nobleman in this place who is in the secret of any such disgraceful measure, I shall expect that he will stand forth, and, for the honour of his country, make a full discovery of what he knows; for if ever afterwards it should appear, that any one of us have been in such a secret, and shall not now make the discovery demanded, I will, for my share, at the risk of my fortune, my fame, and my life, pronounce him to be a traitor, and the betrayer of his country. None of you stand in a nearer, but one in so near a connection with the King as myself; and yet, without hesitating, be the consequence to *Duncan* as it may, I will openly declare to you the cause

cause of my apprehensions. We all know that there has been a motion made to appoint the young *Malcolm* to the government of *Cumberland*: I imagined I had a right to offer my service, as one of his tutors or assistants in that government: I proposed myself to the King, the first boon I had ever personally asked of him; but how greatly was I astonished, when, in return for all the successful actions of my life, I was coolly told, that that momentous matter was to be directed by a nobleman of the neighbouring kingdom, by *Sibert* Duke of *Northumberland*! The consequences of placing such an important government, so contiguous, so necessary to *England*, and which has been so long the envy of it, into the hands of a powerful *English* nobleman, is too obvious to stand in need of any explanation. I have discharged my conscience of the weight that has lain upon it since the hour I stood alarmed at such a proposal. I leave the remedy with you: and although I will concur in no measure to the personal prejudice of my Sovereign, or his family, I will nevertheless concur in every measure that may better secure the honour, liberty and independency of this kingdom.——
Caithness, conscious that he was pointed at, rose up; and endeavouring to vindicate the King on the subject of his application to
Northumberland,

Northumberland, betrayed his being accessory to the scheme: he excused the King, by alledging, that his having written to that Duke on the subject, was with no other view, than as he was the Prince's grandfather, and *Cumberland* in the vicinity, not only of *England*, but of the Duke's estate, he might, by such an acknowledgment, engage the more his countenance and protection to his grandson. He owned, that the King had in so far communicated to him his intention, but that he could not conceive how any nobleman there should insinuate that there was any thing traiterous in such a knowledge; and finally, he, as usual, fell into such a heat, and delivered himself with so much supercilious authority, that his arguments failed of their force, the cabal broke up, the chiefs of it determining, conformable to the wish of *Macbeth*, to act no longer in concert with the Thane of *Caithness*, or any of his party.

‘ The Lady *Macbeth*, who indefatigably laboured to inspire her husband with a passion for government, had secretly placed herself within hearing of these debates; and as soon as *Macbeth* entered her apartment, she flew to meet him, and caught him in her arms with unusual ardour. She vowed to him, that until that hour he had never made her half so happy; that he had at length

length convinced her that he could speak from the soul of a man, and that she flattered herself he would prove to her that he had also the resolution to act so.

‘ This lady, who had very little of either the temper of a *Venus* or of a *Juno* in her composition, was neither troublesome to her husband in respect of jealousy or of love. She was of a most uncommon turn of mind; her ruling passion was for Sway, and all the rest she made subservient to that of ambition: her thoughts were so totally bent upon that one object, that she never suffered herself to dissolve into the natural softness of her sex, and was truly incapable of making herself desirable in amorous enjoyments; infomuch, that as she well knew that *Macbeth*, with all the martial and aspiring genius which any man could possess, was nevertheless extremely devoted to the amorous, she was careful to give him no sort of interruption in these pursuits; on the contrary, that his mind might not be diverted from the Chace which she had in view, by employing too much of his time in the other scent, she herself would often procure for him! Never was there so singular a character! Thus unweariedly instigated by her, and prompted by his own inclinations for power, he grew impatient of uncertainty; he inspired every one of
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the cabal with sentiments of the necessity of a revolution; and in a special manner he wrought up *Bancho*, without whose concurrence it would be difficult to enterprize any project more than ordinarily daring, to a settled dislike of the King. He persuaded *Bancho*, that he would act in concert with him, and even give him his influence to supply the place of *Duncan*, as he assured himself he had capacity equal to it. *Bancho*, on the other hand, knew that the preference would be in favour of *Macbeth*; but then, as *Macbeth* had no legitimate issue, nor the probability of getting any with his present wife, he had little doubt but the succession would, at the long run, fall into his family, which *Macbeth* promised to settle by an act of succession, in case the voice of the cabal should declare for him. In fine, an accord was entered into between them to support mutually the schemes of each other.

‘ *Caithness* was no less busy on the other hand in forming counter projects: he persuaded *Duncan*, that he hazarded every thing, if he continued in a ~~place~~ ^{situation} where he was surrounded by a Cabal, who were plotting the destruction of himself and his family: he therefore advised him, in the first place, to send his children, with all possible privacy, into *England*, to the care of their grandfather;

grandfather; and next, to make a sudden removal of himself to *Inverness*, where he would be nigher to those only powers who now remained attached to his interest; that their forces would be able to protect his person; and that there was little doubt, in case the Cabal should dare to proceed, by violent measures, to set up a king of their own, but *Northumberland* would have interest enough with the King of *England* to march some troops to maintain the right of a family he was so nearly connected to; which, with those of his own friends from the northern provinces, might yet be able to disappoint the undutiful and disloyal projects of the Patriots, as they called themselves. His advice prevailed with the King, who, without giving any intimation of his intention to any of the other courtiers, set out with his family for *Inverness*. As nobody offered to interpose in the least against his departing, and every thing wore the face of quietness, *Caithness* apprehending no danger, left the King on the road, near the *Blair of Athole*, and proceeded to *Inverness*, that he might there the better prepare for his reception.

‘ *Duncan* proposed that night to sleep at *Blair*; and although the friends of *Bancho* have laboured, with every address in their power, to acquit him entirely of any accession

to the assassination executed that night upon the King, and to load *Macbeth*, or rather Lady *Macbeth*, with the whole odium of it, yet it was as strenuously asserted on the other hand, that by whosoever orders the perpetrators of the massacre were employed, yet that such of them as were observed to be skulking near the house that evening, were known to be dependant upon *Bancho*: and if *Macbeth* could be believed, he invariably affirmed to me, that it was a project concerted, without his knowledge, between his wife and *Bancho*. Be that as it may, (for the truth has not, to this hour, come to light) the assassins performed their bloody business with determinedness and cruelty: they made their way into *Duncan's* bed-chamber in the middle of the night, thro' the blood of the few guards, and every domestic that attended upon him; and so insignificant was he become in the esteem of his subjects, that the murderers retired in the morning, made their escape without the least discovery, nor was there afterwards any sort of inquiry set on foot to bring them to light.

‘ The news of *Duncan's* death arriving at *Perth*, *Macbeth* and *Bancho* had a preliminary conference together: they sent for me, and gave me instructions to examine the messengers who had brought the ac-

counts of the catastrophe, and then directed me to summon the nobility to assemble at *Scoon* the day following.

‘ *Macbeth* and *Bancho* were amongst the foremost at *Scoon*; they both appeared in mourning, and affected so well a concern for the death of the King, that it would have been impossible, without being in the secret, to have suspected them. Some of the nobles saluted *Macbeth* as King upon his first appearance, which he as immediately put a stop to, declaring, that he pretended to no right but what the voice of the nobles, with the concurrence of the people, should give him: that in point of kinship to the deceased King, his cousin *Bancho*’s pretensions were little worse than his; and he even went so far as to say, that in many respects *Bancho* had superior qualifications for governing; but withal, he artfully concluded, that in such a critical conjuncture, when it was by no means the right of succession, but the distressed situation of the country, that was to guide them in their choice, he hoped they would all think as he did, and freely give their voices for that man whom they should account the most likely to redress their grievances, and to restore to the kingdom that credit and reputation which a reign of too much indolence had deprived it of.

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He said, he had one nobleman in his eye, whom he regarded as perfectly qualified for that great business, and named the Thane of *Argyle*. That Thane stood up to speak, and probably to declare a determination not to accept, should the voices fall upon him, when you, *Glamis*, insisted to be heard. I well remember the strength, solidity and justice, of your reasoning: I shall, with my latest breath, blame myself for not declaring for your opinion, and regret, that among so many, there were none who had the honesty and resolution to support you. You boldly told the meeting, that you did not imagine they had been convened there to chuse a King, but a Regent; or Regency; that you could not look upon the Throne as vacant while the deceased King had children living, who being young, might be educated with proper care, instructed and trained up to the business of governing; and that if the nation should be so unhappy as to be disappointed in the abilities of the Princes, that it would be then time enough to elect a King from another family, a measure at present totally unconstitutional, and repugnant to the established laws of the kingdom. You was answered by *Macbeth*, who argued, that governing according to laws had been for so many years neglected, it

was to remedy these neglects that a proper Ruler was now wanted; that if you would undertake the regency, and should be invested therein by the ratification of the state, he would very readily concur; but for his part, he would sooner forfeit his life than undertake any share in the regency of a kingdom groaning under such miseries and distractions, as required the best head, with the most resolute heart, to recover it: that such a person or persons must not be shackled by the terror of faction, to be made responsible for every action that might be disagreeable to this or that system of politics: No; it was his opinion, that in such a difficult situation, no method of government would answer the exigencies of the nation but a *kingly* one, and that King to be invested with power uncontrollable; for otherwise, concluded he, the same contending parties which so confoundingly distracted the unhappy *Duncan*, will continue, and have it much more in their power to distract a powerless or fettered Regency.

‘ *Macbeth* having done, *Ross*, as the senior of the Council, rose up; observed, That it was useless to put off time now in debating about the propriety of what he imagined had been already determined; it having been agreed in a former council of patriots, that the deplorable condition of
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the nation was such, as to demand an immediate and uncommon remedy; and even, by suspending the executive authority of *Duncan*, and vesting in another the kingly power, it was judged as then expedient to do that in his lifetime, the propriety of which they were now debating about, when his death made it so much the more necessary! He therefore moved, that they should proceed to election; which being agreeable to the generality of the assembly, they proceeded accordingly, and, by a vast majority, *Macbeth* was chosen King. He affected to accept of the royal dignity with great reluctance; he promised to exert all his understanding to reform the errors of the past reign, and, as much as in him lay, to promote the general good. On the spot he summoned a council to attend him next day, and prayed that every member might be prepared to lay before him such circumstances as most immediately called for redress.

At the meeting next day, you, *Glamis*, having retired, sent under your seal a sensible and spirited protestation against the whole proceedings, which *Macbeth* heard read without the least appearance of resentment: he regretted his not having the concurrence of so able and honourable a counsellor as *Glamis*, but he hoped that his conduct and actions should soon reconcile him,

and every other whose absence spoke them to be disgusted, to the new measures of administration. In the mean time, that the government might distinguish its friends from its enemies, and know who were to be dreaded, and who to be trusted, he issued a proclamation, ordaining, that every nobleman and gentleman should, upon a fixed day at the end of one calender month, meet in the Council-house at *Pertb*, on the pain of being denounced traitors to the state.

‘ Never was a new reign opened with more applause than was that of *Macbeth*; he shewed, that he neither would court nor fear the chiefs of the different parties, but distinguished them by honours and favour according to their respective merits: he instantly established regular courts of justice, and the people began to be charmed, by now seeing a due administration of right, of which they had been so long deprived. He was the premier judge of every court himself, and often attended when his presence was least expected; so that property was secured with impartiality, and oppression was punished with unawed severity. The remissness of former government had encouraged the most wicked of the people to prey upon their peaceable neighbours, and avowed gangs of thieves kept open and daring assemblies, to contrive how they
might

might with impunity most successfully for-
 upon, and pillage from those parts of the
 country where they feared no resistance.
 In a word, it not being worth the while of
 the industrious to improve their possessions,
 as they could not be sure of enjoying the
 effects of their labour; husbandry was to-
 tally neglected, and desolation threatened
 to cover the face of the earth; robbers and
 pillagers were become so numerous, that all
 communication from one part of the king-
 dom to another was interrupted, none dar-
 ing to journey without the escort of such a
 force as few were able to maintain; nay,
 many of the public officers had been cor-
 rupted by the thieves; and those whose
 duty it had been to give a check to the de-
 predations, connived at them. *Macbeth*
 made a general removal amongst all the
 out-parties, and replaced them by such
 troops, with officers over them, as he was
 certain would execute his orders. These
 salutary measures drove the thieves into
 more remote parts, and they formed into
 greater bodies; he employed trusty emis-
 saries to mingle with them, and by that
 means they were often led into snares out
 of which there was no escaping. At length
 he contrived, by one *grand coup*, and the
 force of money, of which he was very li-
 beral, to subdue them entirely; he engaged
 his

his emissaries amongst them to harrangue them into an opinion that they could not now subsist long upon paultry pilfering; that they would do well to catch the first favourable opportunity of striking one important blow, which should enable them to chuse for themselves some one district of the country the most impregnable, and there, in an united body, to live and defend themselves maugre all resistance. To this end he had it given out, that the whole treasures of *Ross*, *Inverness*, the Islands, and *Argyleshire*, were to be collected, and, under different inconsiderable escorts, to be brought down, for the greater security, to *Edinburgh*: that all the parties were to rendezvous at *Blair*, and there to deliver over their charge to one treasurer, whom the King was to send out to meet them for that purpose; that then the several escorts were to be relieved, and sent back to their respective homes: that nothing would be easier than for the chiefs of the ravagers, unknown to the multitude, to manage their matters so, as to assemble by partial parties through the mountains in the neighbourhood of *Blair*, and, upon an agreed signal, to form into one body, to fall upon the King's escort, and make themselves masters of the whole treasure, with which they might with safety retire to any place to be considered

considered upon for their future establishment. This plausible device had its effect, and the chiefs of the banditti formed a plan by which to execute it. *Macbeth* being duly informed of all this, took his measures, by dispatching empty carriages into different parts, which were supposed, as intended to return loaded, to give the imposition the greater air of probability; and in the mean time he had prepared a sufficient number of his chosen troops, to be situated in convenient ambushes, from whence they were to issue at an appointed moment, and surround the plunderers. This stratagem had every effect his heart could desire; it was executed to a point; the robbers were totally defeated; and as many of them as were not slain in the enterprize, were brought in prisoners to *Scoon*, and there made proper examples of.

‘ The unexperienced tranquillity in which the middling and common people now lived throughout the country, distinguished the beginning of this reign with numberless encomiums, and added such strength to the hands of *Macbeth*, that he had nothing to fear.

‘ In consequence of his proclamation, almost every man of consequence, *Glamis* excepted, appeared at court. The Thanes of *Caithness*, *Sutherland*, and *Nairn*, also returned,

returned, and tendered their allegiance; they were received, and even embraced. But

‘ The restless *Rossians*, now finding that their influence had dwindled almost to nothing, began to foment fresh disturbances. The Thane, arrogating the chief merit of seating *Macbeth* upon the throne, having proposed his eldest son, who by this time assumed the air of a man of the first consequence, to be general in chief of the troops, the King refused his request, upon the footing of the young *Rofs* not having sufficiency of experience for such a command. The Thane thought himself slighted, and from that moment nourished the seeds of resentment. *Caithness* perceived the coolness with inexpressible satisfaction, and to make the most timely advantage of it, pressed his service in every shape upon *Macbeth*. He knew them and their practices too well to suffer the Crown to fall under the tutelage of either of them: he declared he would have no favourites; that the best service he could do his country, was to discountenance all parties; that solicitations for power or places should have no effect upon him; that he would look through his own eyes, and promote such only, who in his impartial judgment should be best qualified to fill the places they were to occupy for the public good. He desired they might
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not interpret his declared purposes as they had been accustomed to interpret the too good-natured *Duncan's*, mere words, without a meaning, or he should convince them of the contrary, by punctually executing whatsoever had been once in his mind determined. Neither of the old factions having been used to, nor relishing such cavalier treatment, were equally offended, and for once joined their heads together in the formation of projects to perplex *Macbeth's* administration. They retired in disgust into their respective countries, resolving to invite the return of young *Malcolm*, and in case he should refuse, to make a trial upon *Bancho*, or any other who should be more ductile than they had found *Macbeth*. Manifesto's were now published in support of the lawful heir, and in opposition to such lawless usurpation, as threatened to terminate in the ruin of nobility. Such well-sounding pretences induced some, but a propensity to fish in troubled waters incited many more, who had been long accustomed to uncontrouled oppression and rapine, to join in the cry of these discontented Thanes. Amongst the malecontents, there were men of extensive property, and a most numerous dependence, which enabled them to prepare for the field a formidable

dable power, at the head of which they soon displayed a royal standard.

‘ *Macbeth* was not asleep during these operations, but mustered an army, which he flattered himself should be sufficient to put a check to their designs: to this army he appointed the noble Thane of *Argyle* to the next command with himself; and to be before-hand with any countenance they might hope for from *England*, he ordered *Argyle* to march directly with the first division, consisting of about 4000 men, and he followed the next day at the head of 6000, leaving *Bancho* to the direction of affairs at home, and to have an eye to the southward, in case of any motions from the *English* side. *Argyle* marched straight towards the enemy’s rendezvous, who were astonished to find by his advancing, that *Macbeth* had been so unexpectedly expeditious in collecting a body to oppose them; but having reconnoitred, and discovering the advanced division not to exceed 4000, they determined, although their force had not all come in, to advance, and give them battle immediately. *Argyle* having intelligence of their intention, made a halt on advantageous ground, to wait the King’s arrival; but early next morning, and before the King could come up, he was saluted with a violent attack; he disputed his ground

ground against their superior numbers with amazing prudence and intrepidity, for almost two hours, when *Macbeth's* arrival with the second division quickly decided the combat. The enemy, now pressed, not only with superior courage, but with superior numbers, were put into the utmost confusion; they were totally routed; a terrible carnage attended it; every one of the leaders, excepting the old Thane of *Ross*, who was killed, were made prisoners; but by my interposition, seconded by *Argyle*, the common people did not meet with the cruel fate which destroyed the rebels in *Skie*; the moment victory was ascertained, quarter in general was proclaimed for such subjects as should throw down their arms.

‘ The whole northern provinces being now subdued, *Macbeth* made proper settlements, under the government, of such officers as he could confide in, and returned to *Pertb* in high triumph. The next question of consequence was, What steps should be taken with regard to the ring-leaders of the last insurrection? Few of the council appeared disposed to punish capitally so many men of the first quality; but Lady *Macbeth*, now the *Queen*, always bent on extirpation of enemies; and although her own brother, the young Thane of *Ross*, was one of the principal delinquents, founded no-

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thing but execution in the King's ear : she had a mighty influence over him, notwithstanding which, the concurring endeavours of *Bancho*, *Argyle* and myself, would have prevailed, had not, unluckily for these noblemen, news arrived very *mal-a-propos* that *Macgild*, the most powerful baron of *Galloway*, had put himself at the head of a formidable rising in these parts ; this news conspiring with the impressions of the Queen, determined the fate of the Chiefs ; and accordingly the Thanes of *Ross*, *Caithness*, *Sutherland* and *Nairn*, were all ordered for execution, and lost their heads early the day following.

‘ The execution of these noblemen was no sooner over, than the King once more put himself at the head of a gallant army ; and leaving *Bancho* and *Argyle* to conduct matters at home, he carried me with him, the second in command upon that expedition. He made most fatiguing and incredible marches with part of the army, in hopes to arrive timely enough to prevent any communication between the insurgents on this and the other side of the river *Annan* ; but not being able to accomplish that, and his men being insupportably fatigued, he had been worsted in two several skirmishes ; after which, in the night, *Macgild*, being much better acquainted with that

that country than he, had laid a scheme to surround him, and make him and his people prisoners before morning. *Macgild* had executed his scheme with abundance of dexterity; and whilst *Macbeth* was manfully struggling in the toils he was caught in, I, who fortunately had advanced half a day faster than he expected, came up to his relief, and cutting my way thro' the rear of the enemy, threw my troops into the heat of the action. Upon my arrival *Macbeth* was almost quite spent, but re-inspired with fresh vigour, and re animating his half desponding troops, we jointly assailed the enemy with such irresistible force, that in less than half an hour a complete victory declared for us. *Macgild* was wounded, and taken prisoner; I petitioned for his life, but in vain; *Macbeth* urging, that while such turbulent spirited men were alive, he should have no time to effect that reformation in the civil and political government of the nation which he was so anxious to accomplish; but, as a proof that he was not insensible to the timely succour I had brought him that day, he drew his sword, held it by the point, and delivering it to me, created me Thane of *Angus*, a title never before bestowed out of the royal family. That ceremony being quickly over, and he accepting of my sword in place of his own,

he enjoined, that in neither words, looks or actions, I should shew the smallest disapprobation of his next orders: he elevated, with such implements as he could find, a scaffold, which he ordered should be encircled by the prisoners, and commanded them to shout with acclamations of joy, when, at the sound of a trumpet, the executioner should sever the head from the body of the arch-rebel their leader; promising them, that, as he should discover their satisfaction to be real or counterfeited, he would deal with them accordingly: he regarded them, as far as his eye could comprehend them, with great exactness himself, and he had agents mingled with them to report as to those he could not see. How soon the execution of *Macgild* was over, he ordered all the prisoners to be drawn up in right lines before him, and picking out those who had been least affected, and loudest in their huzzas, he also ordered them for immediate execution, declaring aloud, that those villains who could be so indifferent about the fate of a master whom they knew, and had sworn to serve, could never be faithful to another whom they did not know; and as he was resolved to take the rest under his protection, and employ them in his service, he should hope, that as they had felt for the suffering of a master

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who had misled them into rebellion and disgrace, they would adhere still more faithfully to one who would never lead them but in search of glory and honour. This conceit, uncommon as it was, had an amazing effect upon the minds of the fellows who were saved, and who attached themselves ever after so closely to him, that they were the very last soldiers he had to depend upon.

‘ By such uninterrupted successes and resolute discipline, he effectually humbled all the spirit of turbulency for a time, and was now in a condition to establish a peace upon a pretty solid footing; for by these arts, and an awful, although discreet, deportment, he found himself, after his return, not only rivetted in the esteem of the nobility, but in the affections of the people, which for a considerable time he improved, by framing and governing by a number of more useful and wholesome laws than had been known in the days of almost any of his predecessors.

‘ If accidents had occurred to occupy that activity of soul which prompted him to noble and warlike achievements, he might have longer continued in the character of a great man; but an uninterrupted tranquillity leaving him now too much at his ease, and as, if his mind was not employed in one pursuit, it must in another,

so now libidinous, began to succeed to martial exploits; and as his Queen was a woman who took no sort of delight in conjugal, or in any kind of amorous embraces, but had rather an aversion to mankind in that particular; and as the ambition of her soul was to govern, she often started game for her husband, that while she ~~might en-~~gaged his attention to these objects, she might enjoy to herself the greater pleasure of regulating the affairs of court.

‘ As she was ambitious, so she was extremely jealous of her power; she could not bear the thoughts of any person living at ease, whom she suspected to have the most remote chance of sharing power with her: the recollection that *Bancko* had so much as been named, along with her husband, as a competitor for the diadem, preyed constantly upon her spirits: she considered every piece of respect that was paid to his modesty and merit, as detracting from *Macbeth*; and some of her creatures having, undesignedly, informed her, that it had been prognosticated to *Bancko* by certain gipsies, “ that he or his posterity should one day be Kings of *Scotland*, and that the succession should remain in his family as long as the nation stood;” her imagination was impressed with an unconquerable aversion to him: she placed
spies

spies upon all his actions, in hopes of becoming mistress of some scandal that might promote enmity between him and the King; but the prudent uniformity by which *Bancho* squared his conduct, baffled every hope that way: she would sometimes propose to herself to alarm the pride of the King, by giving him a hint of the prophecy, but then she thought too well of *Macbeth's* understanding, to suppose that such a frivolous story could influence him to break with a man, of whose fidelity and friendship he had got such incontestable proofs. Hell at length assisted her, and suggested the means of opening a breach between the two friends. About this time *Bancho* had unfortunately introduced to court *Inetta*, a half-sister of his, a young lady not less admirable for unequalled beauty, than she was esteemed for a shining understanding; adorned with so much modesty of behaviour, that by every body she was beloved, but rather sentimentally than passionately: she lived at *Bancho's* house, and from his relationship and connection with *Macbeth*, his sister *Inetta* soon became familiar in the Queen's parties. The Queen, with perhaps the most vicious heart that was ever lodged in the breast of a woman, had an amazing faculty of smothering the corruptibleness of it; and by an admirable dexterity

dexterity in dissimulation, she could pass for the virtuous or vicious, for the condescending or insolent, for the dissipated or rigid; and, in short, could assume the contrast of all that was good, or all that was bad, just as the one or the other best suited her company; in so much, when at any time circumstances prejudicial to her fame had by accident transpired, those of the most unsuspected reputations appeared ready to defend her.

‘ The innocent *Inetta*, unsuspecting of ill, had exerted every amiable quality she was mistress of, to render herself agreeable to the Queen; who on her part, was as anxiously meditating how she might turn her acquaintance with this beautiful young creature to the ruin of herself, and the destruction of her brother and his family. To this wicked purpose she embraced the first favourable opportunity of representing such a picture of her to *Macbeth*, as could not fail to awaken his passions with the warmest prepossessions in her favour, and with an immediate desire to see her: the Queen promised to gratify his longing very soon; and accordingly, upon a day when she knew that Lady *Bancho* was to be otherwise engaged, she requested, that as she was determined to see no other company, Lady *Bancho* would dispense with the attendance

tendance of *Inetta*, and allow her to pass the day at her apartments: Lady *Bancho*'s consent was as sure to be obtained as asked; and thus the plan was prepared for dishonouring the fair *Inetta*, under the colour of doing her the greatest honour that the preference of a Queen could confer. *Macbeth*, on pretence of retiring from the fatigue of business, to divert an hour with the Queen, whom he imagined, as he said, was alone, entered without any ceremony into the chamber where she and *Inetta* were amusing themselves: he saw her, and at first sight stopping short, he addressed his wife--I imagined, my dear, said he, you was alone; my eyes convince me that you are not alone; but whether it is a human creature or an angel you are happy with, my senses cannot yet distinguish! pray deceive me: the Queen told him, smiling, that his eyes were not often mistaken; then taking *Inetta* by the hand, who had respectfully raised herself to salute the King, bid him not be afraid, for if her companion was an angel, she was a corporeal one, and in that same angel he might embrace a cousin, in the person of *Inetta*, sister to his friend *Bancho*! *Macbeth*, more touched with that awful and unaffected modesty which were the distinguishing ornaments of *Inetta*'s charms, than he had ever been with
any

any beauty before, advanced and saluted her, but rather with a courtly decency than that kingly stateliness which he wore upon other occasions: he immediately fell into conversation with her; and if he was at first sight struck with her figure, he was now no less transported with that sensibility and dignity with which she modestly delivered herself upon every subject. The Queen made many errands to give them an opportunity of being *tête à tête*, and on such occasions *Macbeth* would make shy advances, to guess at the pulsations of her heart; all of which served no other purpose, but the more to convince him that she was of a very different complexion from any of those to whom he had formerly tendered his addresses. Such distant, tho' courteous deportment, the more enhanced the value of her charms, and inspired him with a greater ardour to enjoy them; though the respect which her manner commanded, made him keep a very tight rein over his glowing passion. The Queen was happy to observe how well her scheme went forward, but wished to see the King's desires inflamed to a greater violence.

' *Inetta* having taken leave, the Queen rallied her husband with having been rather a whining than a manly lover; he accounted for that, by telling her, that if he was not much mistaken, *Inetta* possessed perfections

fections that were not to be subdued by storm; that all the game which had hitherto been started for him, were, in comparison of *Inetta*, fit only for the chase of potchers; but the lovely and accomplished *Inetta* was truly worthy the pursuit of monarchs! The Queen, not so well contented with that serious manner in which he treated this amour, revolving in her mind how she might stir up his passion to more intemperate emotions; told him, that as he had yet but half seen the beauties of *Inetta*, she would contrive to gratify every sense with a more complete perspective of them: I intend to-morrow, said the Queen, to engage her to bathe with me, and from the inlet of light over the door of the bath, which I will leave unlatched, you may get an opportunity of feasting your eyes with the whole object, as masterly nature finished it: *Macbeth* was in extacy with the thought, and in the utmost impatience waited for the hour that was to present such delight to his sight: the moment arrived, and by this malign plot of *Margaretta's*, the whole charms of the innocent and unsuspecting *Inetta* were discovered in their native beautifulness! At that instant he would have bartered his life and crown, to have had the power of retaining his senses, and to be at the same time transformed into a bladder of
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air, or a curl of water ! If he was captivated before, he now raved ! he had no ideas that were not filled with *Inetta* ! and he was determined not to live many hours without the possession of her ! Business, company, every thing became disgusting to him : to me alone he communicated the earnings of his soul ; and I shall never forget his pathetic representation of the bathing scene, from which an able painter might have described a *Venus*, exquisitely finer than any thing yet produced by poetic imagination ! Believe me, *Glamis*, I employed all the force of my tongue and understanding to divert him from the pursuit of an intrigue, which already looked big with interruptions of inquietude and horror ; derogatory to his interest, honour and reputation ; and above all, injurious and ruinous to the peace, fame and fortune, of a young lady whom he owned was worthy of the first diadem on earth ; and whom, by all the rules of honour and hospitality, it was his duty to protect : in fine, I urged the breach of every thing sacred in friendship, and expressed my amazement, that those close ties that had so long and warmly connected him to the noble *Bancho*, did not upbraid him for entertaining the most remote thought of dishonouring his family ! But I might as well have preached to the winds ; his
passions

passions were up; and when they were so, he was ever deaf to argument: upon this occasion he checked the liberty I had taken with more heat than I had hitherto experienced; I then softened my mode of reasoning, and hoping at least to defer his impetuosity, I recommended to him an assiduous application of fair means; observing, that there were few women, how much soever obstinate in the beginning, that had resolution with firmness to oppose the charms of royalty in an adorer, especially when the most favourable opportunities could not be wanting to enforce importunity. I told him, that violence would procure but half enjoyment, and bid him coolly ask himself, how different he should esteem the delights which *Inetta* was capable of bestowing voluntarily, and those which in tears and distraction he might be able to ravish from her: I gained some attention to this sort of reasoning, which I improved to the best advantage in my power. He sought every occasion of being in her company; and the profligate Queen, that she might forward the rapacious design, always contrived they should be left alone. According to my advice, he had command enough of himself to begin by gradual advances; and *Inetta* apprehending no ill, entertained him with a discreet

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freedom;

freedom; until one day he turned the conversation upon the *honour of the sex*, which he treated very lightly, and as no more than an useful phrase to defend them against attacks of pleasure, when they disliked the object. *Inetta* began to be alarmed, and pled the cause of her sex with such uncommon spirit, as rather excited than extinguished his flame: with eyes sparkling love, and emotions boiling with desire, he threw himself at her feet, told her how miserable he was to be deprived of the power of making his mind known to her, by means which honour might justify; that maugre all restraint, he could not longer smother the labouring secret; and that unless she gave him leave to hope, he must make a wretched example of himself! He grasped her so fast, there was no escaping; he pressed ardent kisses upon her trembling hand; thence he rose to her shivering lips, and, amidst a variety of strugglings, without giving her time to utter a word, he ravished numberless kisses! At length she disentangled herself, and was flying from his arms, when the Queen thought fit to enter; she saw the confusion, and asking what was the matter, the King, assuming a jocular sort of air, replied, Nothing at all, my dear, but that I have been robbing the delicious lips of *Inetta* of some
sweet

sweet kisses, which she had very ill will to part with; she thinks me, I suppose, too old for such favours! *Inetta* imagining, with justice, that the Queen would load her husband with reproaches for the violent freedom he had taken, waited, with anxious impatience, for her reply; but how greatly was she astonished to hear the Queen observe, that *Inetta* was but young at court, else she would put a higher value upon the kisses of a King; especially, added she, when so innocent, my Lord, as I suppose your's to have been; a little Platonic love from a King, is what the most scrupulous lady may admit of!—And all other love, replied *Macheth*, being your due, my Queen, I flattered myself, that neither you nor *Inetta* would disapprove of a little harmless amusement.

‘ I like not, answered *Inetta*, to play with even the preliminaries of love, which, although perhaps not criminal in themselves, will be interpreted otherwise by the world; the King's Platonic addresses I shall not presume to judge of; but as the warmth with which he enforced them, was of that nature, that I should have resented with indignation, had they been offered by the greatest subject of the kingdom; so even from the King they have left such an impression upon me, that however duti-

fully I respect him, yet I shall confess I have a greater regard for my own reputation and peace of mind; and therefore, unless I can be assured that I shall not be persecuted with any more of them, I must beg leave to retire from the court: the King, and you, Madam, will the more readily approve my resolution, that the honour I have of being related to him ought to inspire me with a caution to risk nothing that may be inconsistent with that high blood which flows through my veins; and if I ever should hearken to love, even the love of a King! it shall be one who has the power of offering with it a crown!

‘ The Queen affected to applaud her resolution, although she could very ill stomach the dignity with which she concluded what she had said; nay, she began to be susceptible to a fear, that the very fire which she had been so industrious to kindle, might arrive to such a pitch, as might terminate in her own ruin: she knew that *Macbeth* was not to be baffled, after he had resolved; she saw how desperately he was in love, and apprehended that he would try to obtain the enjoyment, let the purchase be ever so dear to him; she therefore determined, that as there was no security for herself, but by obtaining the gratification of the King’s passion upon any terms,
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if the fair *Inetta* was not to be subdued, by the ordinary snares formed to conquer virtue, to betray her into compliance. She soothed the King as well, in the mean time, as she could; she intreated him to be patient for a few days, and undertook at the peril of her life, by one mean or other to accomplish his happiness.

The King however not seeing the idol of his soul as usual, grew pensive and melancholy; it was impossible to entertain him. *Bancho* surpris'd him one day whilst he was walking and musing in his palace garden: and as a friend, intreated to know the cause of his discontent? *Macbeth* tried in his presence to put on an appearance of greater composure, but the emotions of his heart would not disguise for him: *Bancho* pressed him the more earnestly, to let him at least share in what distressed him, declaring if he should not have the power to ~~alleviate it~~, *relieve him* he should certainly lighten the burthen by bearing a part of it.—He told *Bancho* that he of all others, was the least likely to assist him, and therefore desired he might desist from inquiring into the knowledge of what if once known, would give him pain, and rather if possible add to, than lessen his own. *Bancho* little dreaming what could be the cause, still persisted,

yea, conjured him by all the ties of sacred friendship, to disclose his mind, with an asseveration, that if his life and fortune could restore to him that tranquility, which some malignant spirit had rob'd him of, he might command them: Well then, friend *Bancho*, said *Macbeth* you shall know, and many other men in your place would purchase my relief, although you who alone can do it, will I am almost certain, refuse it; Know too inquisitive friend, that I love! that, to distraction I love! thy adorable sister, the fair *Inetta*! You have said you would purchase my quiet at the expence of your life and fortune; you may if you dare, befriend me without the forfeit of either. *Bancho*, like one thunder struck, hesitated to reply. At length recovering himself; I little thought said he, that the Wound could point there! I did say, I could sacrifice my life to your repose, but you cannot think I would my honour! No! *Macbeth* would not permit, that *Bancho* should conspire in prostituting to lust a sister! a virgin of your own blood! You have not so poor an opinion of my virtue!—*Bancho*! *Bancho*! said the King, I know well thy virtue in love affairs; and that on other occasions it has been thy maxim, That the love of a fine woman dissolves all connections and

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considerations whatever. But no more of that ; a flight struck out, only, to try the firmness of your virtue, which I am afraid will rise with equal repugnance, when I open to you, the true source of my melancholy meditations. I have told you that it is you alone who can operate my relief ; but that you of all other men will probably the most oppose it. My souls anxiety then my dear *Bancho* continued he, nicely endeavouring to turn off the attention from his sister, springs from the misfortune of my having no children ; the people I imagine are always discontented, under a barren reign ; and although next to my wife, I have the greatest affection for your family, yet I confess I shall never be easy, unless I can see a chance of being succeeded by either one of my own, or one of my wifes body ; I have had, and may have children of my own body, but these the law of the land exclude. My wife is, to appearance, as likely to have children as any other woman, and therefore I have long thought that a change of the culture, might effect, what my constant toil has never been able to produce. I have said, that you are the single man on earth who can assist me ; but the only man whom I am afraid will not consent to the means ; I say, the only one who can
assist

assist me, because there is not another in life, to whom I would trust a secret of so much importance; and yet the only one whose consent I cannot expect, because of disappointing your own posterity. Thus did this artful man, as had been before hand concerted between him, and the artful Queen, give a very specious turn off, to his base designs upon the virtuous *Inetta*; when he found that her Brother was not to be seduced, to be an accomplice, in such a dishonourable scene of debauchery.

Bancho was no less amazed at the last, than with the former proposal: He told the King, his language was beyond all comprehension; that he certainly spoke in paradoxes; but if they were to have no other end, than to divert his melancholy, he was happy in being the object of them: *Macbeth* studied as much as in him lay, to persuade *Bancho* that it was the affair of his own family, and nothing regarding *Inetta*, which was the cause of his discomposure: *Bancho* however reasoned with him, as to the impropriety of that project also, supposing it could have entered into his head; and argued, that if he was to prevail with any person whatsoever to undertake so unheard of, and hazardous an attempt, the consequence would be rather to disquiet him

him the more, than in the least to tranquillise him : so for this time they parted neither of them very well contented : *Macbeth* was unhappy in his unsuccessful endeavours with *Bancho* ; and *Bancho* could not help, being greatly alarmed with apprehensions on account of his sister. He immediately went to find her, and when he learnt from herself, what had passed between her and the King, he was confirmed in his fears ; for although the indifferent part the Queen had acted in the scene, had a good deal composed the fears of the unsuspicious *Inetta*, yet *Bancho* who had more experience in the machinations of mankind, was very much disturbed in his mind about it ; it was therefore resolved between them, that *Inetta* should embrace the very first opportunity of retiring into the country, without saying one word about it, until she should be ready to take her leave. *Macbeth* on his part having disclosed every article of the conversation to his wife, who was keen in the project of enticing *Bancho* to her bed ; rather to satisfy a hellish, than a fond gust of passion recommended it to him, to renew his applications with earnestness, to gain that end ; and I promise you, says she, that the same night that you can engage *Banco* to attempt my bed, you shall be received into that of *Inetta*.

Macbeth

Macbeth now shutting not only his eyes but his understanding to every principle of honour, friendship or humanity ; and aggravating in idea the resentment he had awakened in *Bancho*, on account of an avowed design upon his sister ; prompted by the most ungovernable lust for her ! and considering him as an almost invincible of obstruction to the completion of his happiness : he resolves to pursue his wife's advice, let the consequences be what they may. He, therefore, in a fit of real languor and perturbation of mind, sends for *Bancho* to attend him in his closet, and there renewed the discourse upon the misery he suffered, and which preyed every day, he said so much deeper and deeper upon his spirits ; that it was become quite insupportable to him : he continued, by telling him that he had even mentioned his proposal regarding *Bancho* to the Queen, who although at first much discomposed by it, was at length so moved by the distress she saw him in, that he did not doubt of reconciling her soon to the experiment proposed, extraordinary as it was ! so that now my friend, concluded he, the peace, or wretchedness of your King and friend, is entirely depending upon you. The gravity with which he delivered himself upon this occasion, made some impression upon *Bancho* ; who
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fearing that every objection he might oppose to it, would be interpreted as springing from self interestedness, appeared rather consenting than averse to the design; but withal, hoping still to procure a delay, he urged, that if the Queen should be prevailed with, to commit such an uncommon violence, against decency and inclination; yet, that he the King, should undoubtedly have left the choice of her object entirely to herself: *Macbeth* replied, that he had truly done so; and that as it was an intrigue prompted by no sort of passion, but merely an affair of expediency, her opinion coincided in every respect with his; that in an endeavour of so vast importance, where the honour and credit of the kingdom, with her personal fame and reputation were the valuable stakes, if there was any man on earth deserving of such a confidence, it must be *Bancho*. *Bancho* could not easily conquer a variety of doubts which sprung in his mind; but he had heard too much; he knew not how to recede. *Macbeth* perceived he was hesitating, and fearing the plot should misgive, began to upbraid him, with want of friendship, and insensibility to the honour proposed to him. *Bancho* assured the King, that in point of friendship no man ever felt its impressions stronger than he; and

and the honour of preferring him to the Queen's bed was undoubtedly unexampled, but withal he said, it was an honour of such an extraordinary nature, and charged with such hazards in the execution, that for his soul he could not tell how he should muster up a sufficiency of assurance, to make a tender of his person, to a Queen whom he had never approached but with veneration. *Macbeth* bid him be perfectly easy on that score ; that every thing should be so conducted, as that he should enjoy the pleasure, or perform the duty, which ever he chose to think it, without the expence of one blush. In fine ; *Bancho* at last, tho' very reluctantly, promised to be at the King's disposal, and to proceed in the affair as he should be by him directed.

' *Macbeth* now hastens to greet his Lady with the success, and to remind her of the promise to accomplish his fruition in the consequence : She had already prepared for the event, in her imagination, ever fertile in mischiefs ! An anniversary festival was at hand, she plans the execution of her dire intent for that night. In the interval, the King having assumed a more regular and easy appearance, than had been observed for some days past ; and having commanded even his looks, from betraying any symptoms alarming to *Inetta* :
Bancho

Bancho actually began to banish the alarms he had entertained upon her account; and to believe that the King's uneasiness had really proceeded from the ridiculous cause he had himself assigned for it, and was therefore less solicitous about her departure from court, than otherwise he would have been.

“ Upon the morning of the fatal day, that Lady *Macbeth* had destined for the most unnatural tragedy that ever was acted, *Macbeth* called upon *Bancho* in the morning, and telling him, that that was to be the night, which he hoped would beget him an heir for his Kingdom, he invited him, with his family, to commemorate the feast, which was his own birth-day, at the palace; and, says he, that you may be under no sort of apprehensions of committing any disagreeable surprise upon the Queen, and to prevent the blushes of either of you, I will myself conduct you into, and help to undress you in the bed-chamber! And to give the most natural look to the whole, continued he, that neither the domesticks of your house, nor of the palace, may make any suspicious observations, I will at supper publicly insist, that you, your son and sister, may all sleep in the Palace for the night. *Bancho* was now too deeply en-

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gaged, to dissent from any thing he proposed, and therefore went about making the necessary preparations to partake of a festivity, which was to be crowned with the destruction of himself and family.

‘Never was there a more splendid court, than came to solemnize that anniversary; the day was spent in the height of luxury and joy, nor was there the least room left, for the most prying eye to suspect that it could end otherwise than as it had begun; only, as if providence had meant to disappoint the blood thirsty Queen in her hopes of annihilating a whole race, which was her merciless design; young *Fleans*, *Bancho*’s son, was taken so suddenly ill, that it was necessary to carry him home, and which accident had well nigh defeated the whole project; for the tender hearted *Inetta*, who doated on her nephew with a parental fondness, would not participate in any of their diversions, but insisted on attending him home, until it should be seen what turn his illness might take. This interruption threw such a cloud of heaviness over their enjoyments, and more over some of their expectations, that the face of things was changed from gaiety to sadness. *Macbeth* counterfeited a prodigious concern for *Fleans*, and would not rest satisfied, unless he went in person to
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see how it was with him; and that he might leave no room with *Bancho* to imagine that he had any sort of inclination to catch *Inetta* alone, he most artfully desired *Bancho* to go with him; which he as readily complied with. They found *Fleans* so well recovered, that he might have rejoined the company, but his physician dissuaded it: the rest however all returned immediately to the palace, and there renewed their jollity. A few selected favourites were kept to supper; amongst these *Bancho* and his sister, who having got notice by the physician that young *Fleans* had gone to rest, quite composed, they could not resist *Macbeth's* importunities to sleep in the palace.

Now the hour arriving for the accomplishment of the Queen's inhuman purposes, she retired with the devoted *Inetta*, and another, a lady of the *Broad Albane* family, a maid of honour, to their respective apartments. Soon afterwards *Macbeth* conducts *Bancho* into the bed-chamber, allotted for him, but which for the fore part of that night was to be occupied by *Macbeth*; it was the next adjoining to the Queen's; here they both undress, and in their loose night gowns, *Macbeth* leads *Bancho* into his wife's room, where every thing appeared as if prepared for the reception

of a bridegroom : how soon *Bancho* was ready to step into bed, he drew aside the curtains on purpose that the Queen might see him, so as not to be deceived in the person intended to fill her arms ; and thereupon *Macbeth* withdrew.

‘ *Bancho*, rather seduced, than tempted to this trial of his manhood, lay a few minutes insensible to any of those emotions, which men are apt to feel when they get within the curtains, to a new object of their own courting ; but at length the communicative warmth, which seldom fails to move persons of a different sex, when in one bed, began to quicken in the destined victim ; and turning himself to the closer embrace, horrid to relate ! she received him on the point of a dagger she had secreted in the bed for the purpose, and which she barbarously thrust home to his heart !

‘ We must next follow *Macbeth* to the commission of an action on his part, no otherwise less flagitious than his wife’s, than that the temptation to it was not quite so diabolical. He no sooner had bid good night to *Bancho*, than he hastened to the apartment of the sister of *Broad Albane*, who had been corrupted to facilitate the ruin of the lovely *Inetta* ; and having learnt from her, that the unsuspecting charmer,
had

had been prevailed upon to swallow the opiate cordial prepared for her, he might certainly enter into the folds of ravishment, without alarming her. The devoted sacrifice slept in the next room; and slept so profoundly, that the betrayer had an opportunity unobstructed, of feasting his greedy eyes, and sacrilegious hands, with every excitement to lust, which a form so perfect could inflame him with! until by every nerve being overcharged with swelling emotions, and impatient for gratification, he like a thief purloined uncomplete fruition! insensible as she was, such unusual disturbance and painful agitation awoke her; but no words, not even can imagination form an adequate idea of the agonies which distracted her, how soon she became conscious of her situation! And yet the unpitying wretch, unmoved by such immense distress, conceiving, that now reanimated, she might yet bestow more perfect bliss, again essays to aggravate the mighty woe, by forcing her to feel, in feeble struggling a repetition of the ill, which, already, she had insensibly submitted to! At length, alarmed with uncouth distant shrieks, he left the pitiable object, to the relief of death, or to the less supportable wailings of plundered innocence!

“ The inhuman Queen had no sooner finished the murder of *Bancho*, than she jumped from the bed and screamed out so vehemently, that she soon aroused the neighbouring ladies of her bed-chamber, and even the more remote guards ; she counterfeited a sort of distraction to a nicety, and in that consternation the King entered, while madam was pouring forth invectives against the lifeless *Bancho*, for having made a daring attempt to rob her of her virtue, and to dishonour the King’s bed ; which nothing, she said, could have prevented, but by a seeming compliance, to wait the opportunity of his laying aside the dagger which he had held drawn at her bosom, quickly to snatch it up, and instantly to plunge it into his ! She dissembled this affair so well, that she had already gained over both the attendants and guards into a belief of the fact, as she related it. *Macbeth* however pretended not only the last surprize, but appeared as if extremely unwilling to credit such an imputation against his cousin *Bancho* ; he ordered that a council should be called to meet within three hours ; that the Queen, with all those persons who at first were witnesses of the situation, should attend ; for that in a question where the parties were so nearly connected with him, he would not trust himself

self as judge, but leave it to the more impartial inquiry of a council.

‘ In the mean time he returned to the chamber in which he had locked up the wretched *Inetta*; she had now recovered some sense of her lamentable condition, and at sight of him she sent forth such a dismal shriek, as even struck his own hardened soul with terror! he prayed that for her own sake she would be patient for a moment, vowed that the ardour of his passion, and the coldness with which she had treated him, urged him to commit what he had done, and what his own conscience blamed him for: But be not so much surpris’d, my dear *Inetta*, continued he; your virtuous brother *Bancho*! had this same night the like design against the honour of the Queen; and which nothing could have prevented the perpetration of, but that she having more the soul of a man, than of a woman, had resolution, by means of his own dagger, to protect her person and my honour from the meditated assault! Such, such, says he, is the irresistible power of real love, that it will break through every barrier of obstruction! Reconcile yourself then, thou loveliest of thy sex, to what is past; my whole life shall be spent in making you reparation for what you have suffered; and if you can
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act with prudence, even the half of my crown may not be without your reach! in vain did she often attempt to interrupt him, his very voice sounding in her ears worse than the hiss of serpents! But catching at his last words, Impious wretch! said she indignantly, and dost thou think as basely of my virtue as of thy own! that thou couldst repair thy treachery to me by perfidy to thy Queen!—Be gone! let me escape from this mansion of devils, that after exhausting the remaining strength you have left me, in invocations to heaven and earth for vengeance, I may next bury my distress in the unrepublishing grave! Soothing being vain, he next resorts to threats; and telling her, that she, her nephew, and whole family, being in his power, if she persisted in her obstinacy, nay, if she would not promise secrecy, he would make a fatal sacrifice of every one of them to his provoked resentment. Never was unhappy woman so perplexed; she promised and unpromised in the same instant, but at last imploring on her knees permission to inquire after her nephew's health, and promising to admit him to her own apartment in the afternoon, he gave her leave to retire.

‘The Council was now met, to hear and judge of the information concerning *Bancho's*

cho's plot upon the Queen, and the cause of his sudden death. The artful Queen had every point of evidence quite clear, *Bancho's* undress, his body being actually found in her bed, her loud and distracted screams, the distress and confusion in which she at first appeared; in short every presumption concurred to exculpate her, and condemn the unhappy *Bancho*! I alone doubted; I desired that the fatal poinard should be openly exposed; perhaps some one might inform, if ever, and where it had been seen before; because sure I said it was none of *Bancho's*; in that moment I stood single, even the penetrating *Argyle*, till after he had seen *Inetta*, was unsuspicious: and in fine, this dark affair was so well conducted on the part of *Macbeth* and his wife, that the majority of the council would have voted some sort of ignominy upon the dead body; but *Macbeth*, who until the last, had sat silent, as if determined that his opinion, or what he should say, might bias no mortal, then rose up and spoke; he pathetically regreted, that by such an unexpected degeneracy in the breast of his cousin *Bancho*, he had suffered, as well as the state, an irreparable loss; the state had lost a good soldier and a counsellor; he had, for his share, not only lost these, but withal, the
partner

partner of his soul, his first confident, and sincere friend ! He thank'd the council for the resentment they were willing to shew to the indignity offered to his honour ; but hoped, as the injury was pointed chiefly against himself, they would allow him to dispense with any mark of infamy intended to be done upon the corpse, and permit that it might be decently interred : This well affected clemency, had any suspicions got place, would have gone some length to banish them, for it wrought greatly in *Macbeth's* favour.

‘ How soon the Council rose, the noble *Argyle* who was a near relation to the mother of *Inetta*, went directly to *Bancho's* house in order to carry condolence to his son and sister : The melancholy *Inetta* had shut herself up to ruminate over her distressful condition ; having ordered admittance to be refused to every body, excepting only *Argyle*, to whom she was resolved fully to unbosom herself ; she did so accordingly ; but it is impossible to give you any sort of copy of the original description which the venerable *Argyle* gave me of the affecting picture he beheld in the dejected, desponding *Inetta* ! He then arranged every circumstance relating to the two families since the hour of *Macbeth's* first declaration of love to *Inetta* ; and from the whole he

he concluded that *Macbeth* and his wife had actually committed these execrable villanies now related of them. The first step he took, was immediately to remove *Means* into *England*; and then by degrees to impress the minds of all those whom he could persuade into confidence with him, with his own sentiments of the murder, and to wait patiently for that hour when they should have strength sufficient, to do justice to the blood and honour of *Bancho's* family. But so uncommonly popular had *Macbeth* by this time rendered himself, that almost every body were spies for him; I knew this better than any body else; and although from *Argyle's* relation to me of what he had been informed by *Inetta*, I was equally impressed with suspicions; yet I still recommended to *Argyle* the utmost circumspection in his conduct; and what has made you, *Glamis*, as well as many of the nobility of these days, entertain jealousies with regard to me? it was because I would never declare my sentiments in the presence of any mortal, where there could be a possibility of conveying them to the ear of the King.

* Suspensions of the foul play which *Bancho* and his sister had suffered, gained ground every day; and many of the most virtuous of the nobles having withdrawn
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their attendance from court, awakened fearful apprehensions in the King, who had, by corrupting their domesticks and others who had best access to their privacies, procured intelligence of almost every conversation they held. He issued a proclamation requiring their attendance, on pretence of assisting in the affairs of government; a few appeared, but many more excused themselves and continued in retirement: at length he dispatched public messengers with armed force, to apprehend those against whom he had the clearest proofs of having scandalized him; and as many as were found out, were brought to *Perth*, where they underwent a form of trial, were convicted of disobedience, of undutiful and seditious discourse, and capitally condemned. Some days previous to their execution, I took an opportunity to expostulate with him upon the severity of the measures he was pursuing; he turned short upon me; ha! said he, is it so, and is *Angus* also my enemy? that is more than I feared! but know, Thane! that as there is no other choice left me, but either to fall myself, or to rid the kingdom of those secret enemies who are daily forming cabals against me, I am resolved to finish my work, and not be the tame dependant upon their smiles or frowns that my predecessor

predecessor was! you know, continued he, a great deal of the late undermining schemes, but notwithstanding all the confidence I have placed in you, you luckily know not half that I know: and let me advise, that for the future, even *Angus* be cautious how he speaks and acts; it would be with reluctance I should also punish him: so saying, he left me to chew the cud upon what I had heard; and I confess, that for my own safety, and that I might have any power at all left me to be useful, I thereafter dissembled a conformity to his ways of proceeding, howsoever absurd; resolving to wait until an opportunity should present itself, when I might openly act more consistently with my own sentiments.

‘ The first trial he made, whether or no I was sincere in the approbation of his arbitrary schemes, was to require my signature to an act of forfeiture against the noble Thane of *Argyle*, who had hitherto baffled every inquiry for discovering his haunts: he knew there was the strictest amity between the Thane and me, and he therefore expected, that I would for certain remonstrate against a proceeding so affecting to myself; but I was prepared for him; and after subscribing to the forfeiture with the utmost seeming readiness, I informed him of what, however, he had intelligence of

by other means ; that I knew that *Argyle's* son, the young *Lorn*, was privately entertained at an aunt's house, not very remote ; and I advised, that *Lorn* should be forthwith taken into custody, and then a fresh proclamation issued, that unless *Argyle*, within a fixed time, did surrender, and answer to his accusation, that his son should, at the expiration of the summons, be made a public sacrifice ! This proposition he greedily approved, and I thereby had the good fortune to re-establish myself in his confidence. *Lorn* was immediately seized upon, and according to my wish, was committed into my custody. The pious father, in consequence, surrendered in a few days thereafter. The King, after having examined him himself, and endeavouring in vain to pump out of him a full discovery of the secret purposes of his enemies, recommended a second examination by me, hoping, that through the power of that friendship that had long subsisted between us, I might draw from him, in confidence, a discovery which the King could not effect. I undertook the task ; but guessing that the King would conceal himself, so as to be within hearing, I managed the conference so dextrously, that while I gained upon *Macbeth's* opinion of my fidelity to him, I stirred up the highest indignation against me

me in the breast of honest *Argyle*. After this examination was over, *Macbeth*, who knew as well as myself all that had passed, shewed, however, a plausible impatience to get the account of it from me; I related it as it was; told him, I could as yet learn nothing new from him; that he acknowledged an insuperable aversion to the King, and no less to myself; and that, finally, he had declared, that the offer of no rewards, nor the fear of any punishment, should ever prevail with him to attach himself to a man who had contrived the murder of one cousin, and committed a barbarous rape upon the person of another, which the unfortunate *Inetta*, now languishing in a monastery, declared, with incontestable proofs, to all the world! The enraged *Macbeth* proposed instantly to condemn him to the torture, which I affected at once to concur in, and I actually gave orders to prepare for it; but in the interim, throwing myself, as if by accident, in the King's way, I began to reason with him upon the affair of *Argyle*. I told him, that there was no doubt but it was in *Argyle's* power to make discoveries of the highest importance, but that I knew him to possess a firmness of soul not to be shaken by the most excruciating torments! That, of all the nobles, he was undoubtedly the most popular; and that however much

it might be in our powers by force to overawe the immediate resentments of the people, yet the public torture and execution of one so much their idol, would take such root in their minds, as might burst out upon some occasion, when least expected. I concluded, by affirming, that for certain, if for nothing else but his obstinacy, when his Majesty had made him a tender of mercy, he richly deserved death; but insinuating, that if I had some less formal opportunities of entering into conversation with him, and of impressing upon his mind a revival of our ancient friendship, I flattered myself I might still work something out of him; that if, in the end, I should find all my address in vain, I, in that case, submitted it, whether it would not be more eligible to make away with him in a private manner, rather than to increase the grumbings of the people, by making him a public example: nay, I further told him, that if he would leave it to my management, I would conduct it so, as to turn the voice of popularity for the King, and against *Argyle*; for by committing him to my keeping, whom the world believed to be his friend, and engaging to answer for the consequences with my own life, I argued, that the public would, in the first place, applaud the King's lenity; and when it should be judged necessary

cessary to dispatch him, (for I insisted that it would be dangerous to let him live) that I would however contrive it so, that every body should believe he had destroyed himself.

‘ The King gave an ear to this reasoning; and after he had communicated it to the Queen, who also approved, and both being happy to think of my voluntarily taking so large a share of guilt upon myself, it was agreed that *Argyle* should be left entirely at my disposal: I therefore went in person, and enlarged him from his prison; and conducted him openly, and without any guard, to my own house; however, he passed through the approving populace with a fullness that still spoke discontent. I took the first opportunity of disclosing my real sentiments to *Argyle*; prayed him to forget the behaviour with which I carried myself to him in the beginning, and convinced him of the necessity I lay under of acting as I did, because I was certain we were then in the hearing of *Macbeth*; but that it then was, as it still was, my intention, not only to save his life, but to render him and his family every possible service. The Thane gazed upon me, suspicious! but that sincere uniformity which he read in the composure of my countenance, being more satisfying to him than words, he em-

braced me, and said he should be at my disposal. I told him, that his destruction had been resolved upon, not only by death, but by torture; and that, if possible, to prevent either the one or the other, I had myself undertaken to have him privately murdered, to the end, that at the same time that *Macbeth's* apprehensions of danger from his influence might be at an end, the fury of his friends might not be provoked by the sight of a public execution: that, in consistency with my project, I would contrive means for his escape, on condition, (for I could not be safe myself upon any other) that he would submit, until better times should relieve him, to a confinement in my castle at *Ila*; and that I should, by a management in this sort, have it still in my power to protect and rear up his son, whose existence would be less alarming, when it was believed the father was actually dead. To all which the worthy Thane, yet eager on revenge, reluctantly assented. *Argyle* had one servant, in whom he could confide, and I selected one of the most trusty of my own, to accomplish the execution of so important a design; these I employed, in the uniform of guards, to bring from prison a malefactor, then under sentence of death, to my house; the servants strangled him, stript him, and put upon him the clothes
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of the Thane, who, attended only by my servant, I sent off in disguise the same night. The malefactor was much of the same stature with *Argyle*; so that having, after his death, ordered his face to be mangled, I next morning waited on *Macbeth*; and telling him, that after using every artifice in my power to make the stubborn Thane speak out, all had been to no purpose: I even said, that I had at first but partly strangled him, and then relieved him, just upon the edge of death, but nothing could prevail, till at length I was provoked beyond measure, and had finished him, with only one servant in the secret, who was prepared to assert with me, that he had cut his own throat. The King applauded what had been done; but anxious, as I expected, to be convinced of the fact, he accompanied me home, where he gratified his inhuman eyes with the miserable spectacle: he then cordially embraced me, and said, I had indeed proved myself his friend! The Court affected to lament the catastrophe; the King's own family went into mourning, and the body was ordered private, but decent burial.—This, my dear *Lorn*, is the greatest debt you owe me; thy noble father yet lives, unknown to you, to *Eugenia*, or to any other mortal, but the faithful servant who lives with him! and how soon we
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can find a vessel to proceed to *Ila*, we may all have the happiness, with himself, of felicitating one another in the restoration of one of the best of men !

‘ *Lorn* was struck with unutterable joy, in the hopes of one day embracing that author of his being, whom he had for so long a time imagined had no existence ! The venerable *Glamis*, as if enchanted, expressed a gladness through every striking feature ! Now *Angus*, said he, you have by this one masterly stroke of management washed clean every imputed stain from thy administration ! and at this moment I find myself as prone to interpret with favourableness, every transaction of your ministry, as before I stigmatized them as infamous and diabolical ! and, now, my dear friend, added he, proceed in your relation ; until now, I listened to you with suspicious attention ; to the sequel, I shall hear you with confidence and pleasure.

‘ This supposed destruction of *Argyle*, continued *Angus*, fixed me so firmly in the good graces of the tyrant (for such was he now become) that every diffidence of me was banished ; and it was by that means that young *Lorn* was so absolutely left in my direction ; I promised to *Macbeth* that I would train him up in such principles, as should be the most agreeable to his

his inclinations, and thereby secure not only himself, but the powerful connections of his family in the court interest : to which end I proposed, to prevent his being exposed to the designing seduction of others, to confine him as a sort of state prisoner to the boundaries of my own house, until he shall arrive to such an age as should entitle him to the King's particular notice ; and that then the enlargement should appear to him to be the effect of royal favour : And it was purely that I might act so consistently with these engagements of good policy, as not to be liable to any suspicions of meaning otherwise, that made my entertainment of *Lorn* bear so much the appearance of an imprisonment.

‘ However, the number of the late merciless executions, joined to other apprehensions and jealousies, disposed every nobleman and gentleman, who could do it with decency, to withdraw themselves from the court ; so that in a little time there were none to be seen about it but a band of sycophants and cut-throats, who were ready not only to approve, but to execute, the most arbitrary measures, that the most barbarous of Kings had a heart to contrive. By their means, and the instigations of the Queen, there was nothing to be heard of
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but daily proclamations of attainder and forfeiture. The wisest heads, the best hearts, and noblest blood of the nation, must all be persecuted, to make vacant places of honour, power and trust, for the most consummate ruffians, that any nation ever produced; these, by gratifying every propensity to lust in their sovereign tyrant, might themselves commit, with impunity, every degree of outrage, robbery and rapine they had a mind to; which if you will give me leave, I shall illustrate by one shocking example.

‘ There was a gentleman of family in the highlands, named *Maclean*; he had a most beautiful wife with whom he had lived, and was living, in a state of the utmost concord and felicity; one of *Matbeth’s* body guards happening to ride past the castle of *Maclean*, saw his wife, and immediately conceived a desire to enjoy her; he returned to the castle, and after being entertained with every proof of hospitality, he had the impudence in the husbands presence to offer unbecoming addresses to the wife of *Maclean*, which he enforced by the argument of his influence at court, and his being so much a favourite with the King, that he was employed in all his most secret and personal expeditions; the husband and wife both treated such an insult with the contempt

contempt it deserved: *Maclean* ordered him to quit his house in an instant, or swore he would immediately send his head as a present to his King, with a label intimating the daring affront he had offered to his family. The monster thought it best to obey, and thanklessly left his entertainers, with a heart as full of resentment as of lust: From the castle he went immediately in quest of some of his profligate brethren, and having found out four or five as big ruffians as himself, he with them, returns to the castle in the dead of night; and after setting fire to one part of it, they entered sword in hand into another: *Maclean* did not dream of his ungrateful guest, but suspecting them to be a party authorised by the King to apprehend and carry him off a prisoner, on account of a backwardness he had shewn to deliver up some rights of vassalage, then in his possession; he endeavoured to conceal himself: and the unhappy wife imagining she risked nothing, assisted in letting him down from a back window from which he might make his escape. She had just returned, and was making towards her own chamber, when the villain who had insulted her at mid-day, caught her rudely in his arms; and supposing that *Maclean* was still in his chamber, he locked the door, and set fire to it!

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he next ordered his emissaries to bring off the children, and thus they forcibly carried away the unhappy mother and three infants, leaving the house in a blaze, and dragging them about the distance of a mile or two to the cottage of one of the ravagers confederates ; where the first ruffian insisted that the the poor helpless lady, should unresistingly submit to gratify his foul desire, or that instant see her innocent babes butchered before her eyes !

Prayers, tears and struggling were all useless : Life just supported her to behold one of the ruffians massacre one of the children ! She then fainted away, and between the agonies of life and death, the villian not only perpetrated a most brutal ravishment, but had the still more unexampled barbarity, to suffer his vile accomplices to commit the same execrable action. In the mean time *Maclean* having walked round his house, having seen part of it on fire, and observing no guards about it, supposed then, that the alarm had been rather from thieves, than from troops ; he re-entered his house, but seeing no body but two or three servants running wildly to and fro in search of him and his wife, of whom, with his children, he found he had been rob'd ; he was, you may believe, in a state of the utmost distraction !

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How soon the ruffians had finished their savage purpose, they went their ways, leaving the poor abused gentlewoman, deprived of all sensation, besmeared with the blood of one, and amidst the heart-rending cries of the two surviving children! In this deplorable condition, did the miserable husband, after some hours search, find his violated family! What could be done in such a case for her recovery, was done, but ineffectually; the poor woman did not survive the calamity many hours.

‘ *Maclean* then fearless, or rather careless of the King’s resentment, presents himself at court, and supplicates redress. The villain owned the flagitious fact, but urged in his defence, that it was *in terrorem* of others, who disputed the King’s authority; and having appealed to the false testimony of his accessaries, *Maclean* was accused of having spoken contemptuously of the King; and in fine, in place of obtaining redress, he was thrown into prison, and there secretly murdered.

‘ It would be too shocking to the humane ear, if I should recount any more of the barbarities, with which every day then distinguished this flagitious reign! I dissembled almost a constant indisposition, that I might shun the mortification of being present in such a diabolical council,

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which was then composed of such monsters only, as could be most forward in contriving and executing the destruction of those of their fellow creatures whose power or virtues rendered them suspected by, and obnoxious to the tyrant. And I, may with truth assure you, that even I, who still held the nominal, without any share of the executive office of a minister, seldom went to sleep, that I did not dread the being surprised, with my family, by assassins, before next morning. So that however flattering the grandeur of a prime minister may be, it is for the most part a situation rather to be pitied than envied. If a weak King is on the throne, you are sure to be perplexed with the dangerous emulation of factions ; and if a tyrant reigns, you must give the sanction of your name to deeds horrible to think of ; and the rarity of a sovereign untinctured with neither the one nor the other, gives the chance against any well meaning minister, whether his station is to be desirable or not : people who have no access to penetrate into the secret machinery of government, often blame the minister with mismanagements, which are purely the effects of either the weak or despotick temper of the monarch, whose blemishes it is at the same time his favourites duty to throw a veil over, if in
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His power. This was a duty which I confess I persevered in too long, until at length I found myself in a dilemma, out of which I could hardly hope to extricate myself.

It would spin out my relation to too great a length, otherwise I should now give you some account in what manner the young *Lorn* was educated, and past his time during the apparent confinement under which he continued in my guardianship; and of the progress of an intimacy, a friendship, and at last the generous passion which mutually glowed in his, and the breast of my *Eugenia*; but my spirits are already too much exhausted to support me through that affecting detail: I will therefore leave the discussion of that interesting part of the memoirs of these days to *Lorn* himself, who will be capable of relating it the more emphatically, that he will not speak from information only, but from feelings. I shall therefore conclude this tedious narration by one other fatal proof of the tyrant's cruelty, which will be the more necessary, that the unhappy sufferer by it, being now in *England*, and a nobleman not only of great power and property, but of as active a spirit as any man of the country he has fled from; it shall soon be my business to find him out, that together with him, and the other exiles, measures may be con-

certed, for supplicating the aid of the *English*, and with their generous assistance to endeavour the redemption of our bleeding country.

Although the *Queen's* arbitrary and inhuman temper continued still impenetrable to the awakenings of conscience, it was not now so with *Macbeth*; he was afraid of every moving figure that came near him! he started at every noise! in short, he was afraid of himself! These admonitions of a guilty conscience put him in the mind of erecting some strong hold for his personal security, and it was therefore that he founded that strong fortification on the top of *Dunfinane* hill, to the building of which he commanded by proclamation that every nobleman and gentleman in the kingdom should contribute, by furnishing money, materials, and artificers, in proportion to the extent of their several estates. At this time *Macduff*, the noble Thane of *Fife*, whose power and virtue had already rendered him odious to the iniquitous court, became the next great object of the King and Queen's resentment; he could not prevail with himself to harass his tenants and vassals by giving obedience to the King's proclamation; he therefore dreaded justly the effects of his resentment, and happily for him made his escape into *England*, leaving

ing the management of all his affairs entirely to his lady, who being nearly related to *Macbeth*, he flattered himself, might elude every bad consequence of his wrath. *Macbeth* suspecting that *Macduff* would meditate an escape, summoned some of his chosen banditti, and putting himself at their head, marched, so soon as the days of the proclamations had expired, with great privacy towards the estate of *Macduff*, with a view to seize his person and to plunder his possessions. He arrived in the night, and surrounded *Macduff*'s castle, and being permitted to enter without any sort of resistance, the alarmed lady flung herself, with her innocent crying children, prostrate before him, imploring for mercy. His fierce soul was now agitated with jarring passions ! he was furious on account of *Macduff*'s escape ; while at the same time the beautiful figure of lady *Macduff*, greatly heightened by the supplicating posture into which she had thrown herself, touched his rapacious heart with a different emotion ! At first he dissembled a gentleness now become unnatural to him ; he raised her up, and embracing her with the warmth rather of authority than complacency, she shook with terror ! he immediately told her with an abruptness, shocking to innocence, that she had one

way, and but one left, to save the lives of her children, and her husband's possessions; and that was, to comply instantly, and gratify the passion she had kindled in him! She kneeled! she teared! she expostulated with all the energy of afflictive sensation! It was all in vain! In vain did she plead her admitting him into the castle as a relation, as her friend, and as her King! in vain did she urge every abuse of hospitality, and the unkingly manner by which he offered to violate its laws. In fine, having assumed a firmness which ever accompanies determined virtue, she told him she valued her fortune, she loved her children, and she revered her husband, and yet, bid him know that she preferred her honour to all! The unfeeling tyrant laughed in ridicule, ordered her two children to be murdered in her eye sight, and then commanding that she should be bound and carried into her bed-chamber! he followed, and there, after having committed the most execrable ravishment that ever man but himself could dare the commission of, that he might put an end to her agonized groans, he also ordered herself to be murdered! He next proclaimed *Macduff* a traitor, forfeited his estates, and prohibited correspondence with him on pain of death and confiscation!

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‘ On his return from this scene of barbarity, he came on a visit to my house, on purpose to learn how such transactions were relished by me ; and most unfortunately, though considering that it has produced this happy escape, I may rather say fortunately, he cast his eye, for the first time since she had arrived at the state of puberty, upon my *Eugenia*, whom, until that hour, I had carefully concealed from his rapacious eyes ; he caught fire at sight of her beauty, and even in the instant made insinuations against her virtue ! Nay he had the effrontery to demand her of myself, for his mistress ! The dreadful examples of *Inetta* and *Bancho* were too full in my memory, not to caution me against the effects of a flat denial ; on the contrary, I tried only to defer the shocking purpose, by promising that I would myself recommend his suit, and exhort her to a sensibility of the preference with which he considered her. By this means I flattered myself with gaining some days, and was in the mean time busy meditating the most probable measures for an escape. *Eugenia*, who was not altogether a stranger to the vicious dispositions of *Macbeth*, became miserable with fear, since the first approach he made to her ; he made his errands more frequent at my house, and it was with the utmost difficulty that
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the terrified *Eugenia* could avoid his addresses ; it was her custom, how soon she had heard of his visit, to retire to some unfrequented place in the gardens : at length he grew very impatient, and one day having flatly accused me with at least a tepidity in his service, if not a full intention to deceive him, he peremptorily demanded to see her ; I trembled for the consequence, and endeavoured once more to divert him from the purpose, by assuring him, that I had already opened the subject to her ; and hoped, that by a conference or two more, I should be able to conquer her objections, and to reconcile her to the honour he intended for her ; but that, as no such view had ever before entered into either her's or my head ; and that, as every lesson she had studied from her infancy, having been, without regarding distinctions of men, totally repugnant to the thoughts of any pleasure or grandeur not consistent with virtue, a little time was necessary to reason her into an alteration of her sentiments ; for I told him, it would indeed be a hardship put upon me, to command by authority what I hoped so soon to accomplish by persuasion. He appeared somewhat satisfied, but persisted in seeing her, promising at the same time, on his word, that he should be so far from offering any thing that might disgust her,

her, that on that occasion he would only mention love with great delicateness. To please him, I went out to call her, but finding she was not in the house, I walked with him into the garden; and after a variety of turns, we at last discovered her very serious with young *Lorn*; at sight of whom the King fell into a most violent fury: What, says he, do you nurse up that young rebel, who breathes only by my indulgence, to be a bar to my enjoyments? 'Tis enough; I will soon put an end to that rivalry: So saying, he flung out of the garden with such aggravation in every feature, as sufficiently indicated, that the execution of some dreadful purpose would soon follow. He immediately set guard upon my house; so that I now seeing we had not a moment to lose, I made fast every gate and door; and retiring, with *Lorn* and *Eugenia*, to the most detached part of the house, and having filled our pockets with as much gold, and as many jewels as we could carry, we let ourselves down by a stool, slung conveniently with ropes, from a back window, from whence, unseen and unsuspected, we could get into a stable-yard; and thence, with one trusty servant only, taking four of my best horses, we rode, with all haste, towards the Highlands. As the servant was well acquainted through the muirs, and
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night coming on, it was impossible to trace us. We had rode, at full speed, for almost six hours, without a halt, until the unusual fatigue having quite overcome the tender *Eugenia*, and there being no sort of habitation within our view, we were fain to form in the heath the best beds we could; and there we embraced a very refreshing repose, being assured by the servant, that we were at least thirty miles distant from *Pertb*, and by such an unfrequented road, that we had nothing to apprehend from a pursuit. Having here, without sleeping, reposed ourselves about three hours, we were anxious to proceed; but the horses, no less fatigued than their riders, and having no other nourishment than they could glean amongst the bushes, were all unfit for service, except the one that I had rid: upon that one therefore we mounted the servant, and sent him forward to discover any sort of dwelling, whilst we trudged after him as well as we could, leading our beasts. We had not however walked above three hours, when we descried the servant returning towards us with fresh horses, accompanied by their master, a vassal to *Cummin* the Thane of *Badenock*, who being at that time a minor, had escaped the notice of *Macbeth*. Here we met with a very hospitable reception; but withal, were advised not to tarry long

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in the same place, as there were but few days passed, but some or other of the court spies were traversing the country.

‘ We continued our flight the next and following day, and then made towards the *Mull of Galloway*; and, as Providence kindly ordered it, we had just got on board our small bark when the Tyrant’s pursuers arrived on the beach, and, in our sight, seized our horses, and, to the sorrow of us all, the faithful servant who had been so useful in our escape. We set sail immediately, intending to steer first for *Isla*, in order to make the noble Thane of *Argyle* a partner in our escape; but the wind not serving, and still fearing to be chased, we were obliged to obey the winds, and to make for the *English* coast directly. Nothing extraordinary happened in our passage, until we came within sight of this friendly shore, where we have enjoyed a sympathy and protection equal to the nobleness of those souls which bestow it.’

Angus having thus finished his narration, the venerable *Glamis* embraced him in tears of reconciliation, sadly interrupted with the swelling sighs which rose upon the thoughts of his distressed country. The generous heart of *Edmund*, and the others present, were

were proportionably moved ; and the whole concluded, not only in prayers, but in firm resolves, to leave nothing undone for the recovery of the honour and rights of that oppressed kingdom.

We have already seen to what accident it was owing, that the young *Lorn*, when no more than thirteen years of age, came into the hands of *Angus* ; but his entertainment, and the manner of his education, with a variety of circumstances, both instructing and interesting, during his nurture and tutelage in that family, remains to be related ; a task, as our manuscript informs, which was performed by himself, to gratify the anxious inclinations of his generous benefactors.

This small, but happy society, having next day convened in *Edmund's* garden, when the seasonable serenity of a delightful day contributed to heighten the attention suitable to such an affecting narration, *Lorn* thus proceeded :

‘ You have heard, said he, by what means the Tyrant destined me to confinement ; how difficult then must it be for me to do justice to that benignity, which, in place of a prison, had prepared for me an academy ; for I had been but a few days
under

under the hospitable roof of the noble *Angus*, till I found myself in the hands of preceptors, well chosen, not to instruct me simply in the knowledge of languages and sciences, but to form my mind to the most genuine notions of virtue and philosophy; and in place of being trained, agreeable to the base purpose of *Macbeth*, to a tame subjection to measures of slavery and oppression, my lessons were such as inspired me continually with an abhorrence of such fatal doctrines.

‘ That assiduity and pleasure with which I applied myself to study, and the paternal sympathy of my guardian, left me no room to imagine I was in confinement; and as in intervals I had opportunities of relaxing my mind with the engaging prattle of the little charming *Eugenia*, then but ten years old, my time was unencumbered with any sort of heaviness. We were then both too young to be susceptible of amorous impressions; yet in that, the very dawn of her beauties, there was a something that foretold my future enjoyments. It is with pleasure I do, even now, recollect that eagerness, with which, in the beginning of desires to be agreeable to each other, we hastened to meet our dancing master in the hall, where a mutual disposition to please, promoted greatly the perfection to which we soon arrived

rived in that exercise. Careful not to interrupt me, she would often steal into my study while I was under the tuition of my masters, and listen with an attention unusual at her age. Such an early tendency to acquire superior knowledge, disposed me to re-communicate to her such of my lessons as were best adapted to a female genius : I took delight in making her acquainted with every amiable character I learnt from history. I remember, that upon one occasion I was expatiating upon the different effects produced by the virtuous or vicious habits of the *Greeks* and *Romans*; at one time admiring the wisdom, prudence and humanity, of an *Augustus* or a *Vespasian*; at another, depreciating the villainy and barbarity of a *Nero*, *Caligula* and *Domitian*; when the infant charmer observed—I know not (said she) if in our days we shall ever see an *Augustus* or a *Vespasian*, but surely the actions of a *Nero* and *Caligula* are too common to us: however, (continued the surprising *Eugenia*) I have often heard my dear papa advise every one to be slow in passing judgment on the actions of others, till we can be sure that our own hearts are inclined to correct them; and that good is often produced from the consequence of the most apparent evil. This (said she) I am already convinced of, because, if I had
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been born in a more perfect reign, you should not have been confined to this house, and I should not have had the pleasure of so agreeable a companion, nor of hearing the histories of *those* so much better times than *these* we live in.

‘ After this manner were my juvenile hours passed away in reciprocal amusement with the endearing *Eugenia*; and as she advanced towards the years of puberty, her intellectuals keeping pace with the beauty of her form, betokened every thing that was lovely; and a few years gave me such a forcible proof of her capacity to bless the object of her esteem with the most penetrating testimonies of exalted friendship, as commanded an approbation of both sentiment and figure, that neither time nor circumstances can ever be able to dissolve.

‘ There was an arbour elevated in one of the corners of our garden, which was contrived to overlook a frequented public walk; there, as I could, unseen myself, both see and hear the company as they aired in this walk, I generally diverted an hour’s time of an evening, sometimes in the desirable conversation of my dear *Eugenia*, and sometimes alone. Upon one of my solitary evenings, all the company having just retired from the walk, and I ready to follow their example, was delayed from my purpose

pose by the voice of piercing murmurs, which seemed to force their way through most affecting sighs: I listened, and adhering to my station, soon observed a young lady, genteelly dressed, and of a very engaging form, place herself on a bench immediately under the wall contiguous to my retirement; she had not sat long, before she was joined by another more elderly gentlewoman, for whom she seemed to have waited. The moment the gentlewoman appeared, the fair mourner hastily demanded of her, What tidings? Is my friend at hand or not? Is he alive? The gentlewoman answered, Madam, be composed, nothing bad has, I believe, yet happened, with regard to the object of your desires; my inquiries have not hitherto been complete, but I have confidants at work, who, I hope, will be able to procure us some satisfaction: but permit me, Madam, to ask you, how it happens, that thus dejected, you abandon the protection of your father's house; for without alarming you with an ill-grounded diffidence, I should not chuse to be employed in any business that might taint my reputation? This question drew from the trembling *Isabella* (so was the lady named) a flood of tears; and how soon she could charge her tongue to utterance, she sobbed out, How hard, how cruelly hard!

is the fate of young women, who must either sacrifice their persons and understandings to the severe opinions of unfeeling parents, or subject their characters to unfavourable suspicions! But, Madam, (continued she) you yourself shall judge, from the true relation of my sad situation, whether or no I deserve your pity and assistance.—The condition of my father's family is not unknown to you, and therefore I need to say nothing more on that point, than to tell you that, as a daughter of that family, I had reason to hope for the addresses of such gentlemen as should be able to accompany one through life with tolerable satisfaction. Before the defections in the court of *Macbeth* arrived to such a pitch, that none but parasites, sycophants, and villains, were the supporters of the throne, the accomplished *Killibarren*, one of the foremost in the esteem of the late noble and worthy Thane of *Argyle*, was frequent in his visits at my father's house, and a mutual approbation growing between him and me, our affections became the consequence of it. My mother, unfortunately for me, had got in her eye an old rich advocate, whom she intended for my husband: this advocate was deformed in his person, insufferable in his humour, and covetous to the last degree! *Killibarren* was manly, affable, and generous! So that it

will be no difficult matter to decide, which had the preference in the heart of a young woman just in the bloom of female maturity. My father, although he had in the beginning rather given some countenance to the addresses of *Killibarren*, was too obsequious to the will of his wife, to oppose her decrees with any degree of resolution: she accused him of folly, for having hearkened to the suit of a vassal, for a son-in-law, when she had it in her power to bestow me upon a husband almost as rich, though not so noble, as the Thane himself: in short, she prevailed so far over the good nature of my father, that he gave me over to her disposal; the consequence of which was, that the amiable *Killibarren* was forbid the house, and I discharged, under the penalty of a maternal curse, and deprivation of fortune, to hold any farther correspondence with him: but alas! the prohibition came too late; we had already exchanged our hearts by reciprocal vows, too sacred to be broken; so that I found myself under the reluctant necessity of resorting to dissimulation, that I might shun the restraint of a total confinement, and be thereby deprived of the pleasure of such private interviews with my beloved, as we could procure by stealth. By one artifice after another, I procrastinated the conclusion of affairs with *Bernard* the
advocate,

advocate, until the arrival of a circumstance so affecting to this devotee of wealth, as at once relieved me from his loathsome pursuits. It was just at the juncture when *Macbeth* was projecting the fortification of *Dunfinane*; and finding, upon examination, that his finances were rather low at the time, he was casting about how he might raise a fund for that purpose, when some of his worthy counsellors directed him to the rich *Bernard*. *Bernard* was immediately summoned to court, to which he had been all his lifetime an utter stranger; he would fain have excused his attendance, by pretending indisposition; but the King instantly ordered a detachment of his guards to fetch him before him, dead or alive. The officer making no sort of ceremony, entered abruptly the apartment of the advocate, and found him earnestly occupied in disposing his money into separate bags, for the better concealing of it: if the indisposition of this wretch was at first only counterfeited, it became now indeed real: the officer secured immediately all the money he saw, and had it transported, along with its owner, to the presence of the King. *Macbeth*, upon seeing the ghastliness which then appeared in the advocate's figure, and the terrible tremor which shook every joint of him, did not doubt but he had been really valetudinary,

nary, and at first asked him, if an old man of such a feeble constitution was not ashamed to think of matrimony with a young vigorous maid? The old miser was not ignorant of *Macbeth's* salacious character, and therefore the sordid wretch, disconcerted as he was, bethought himself of throwing another sort of bait in the King's maw, hoping thereby to divert his attention from a treasure more valuable to him than all the youth and beauty on earth; he put on all the obsequiousness of the vilest pander; confessed to the King, that he did intend to marry, but with very little view to indulge any appetite of his own; he said, he had never had the honour to be at court, because he did not know of any merit by which he could introduce himself; that he had somehow heard, that his Majesty was of a very amorous complexion; that he had for a long while been in search of a beautiful young woman, not doubting but the ill-grounded report of his wealth would render an alliance with him acceptable in most families; and that it was his intention, so soon as he could call *Isabella* his own, to have the honour of presenting her to the King, and by that means recommending himself to his favour. Whether it was that *Macbeth*, who was not deficient in point of penetration, was truly shocked with such

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an instance of baseness, as he had hardly ever met with before; or whether it was avidity to have the touching of the advocate's treasures, I shall not take upon me to determine; but justice, for this time, exerted itself even in the hands of a tyrant: he regarded the trembling *Bernard* with an eye of piercing indignation; asked him, how he dared to insult Majesty, by offering to corrupt it by the most unexamped prostitution? ordered him into immediate confinement, and proclaimed a confiscation of all his estate. How unfathomable are thy ways, O Providence! Thus, from the mouth of vice itself, that it might gratify its own rapacity, was oppressed innocence rescued, and avarice and prostitution deservedly punished.—But alas, Madam, (continued *Isabella*) my distress has not ended with the advocate's punishment: The no less abandoned, though younger, *Calendar*, having hearkened attentively to the discourse of *Bernard* while before the King, became immediately a visitor at my father's house; and so effectually gained upon my mother, that his addresses, still more daring than the advocate's, were favoured by her: that villain *Calender*, to whom, amongst many other barbarities, is imputed an accession to the rape of *Inetta*, and murder of her brother, as well as the

secret

secret assassination of the noble Thane of *Argyle*, he now persecutes me with a proffer of his detested heart. I have pled so effectually with my too easy tempered father, that I prevailed with him to reason with my mother against such a compulsion of inclination : he argued from the fatal consequences that would have attended the force she designed to put upon me, by marrying me to the base *Bernard*; but the reputed power, interest, and fortune of *Ca-lender*, unhappily overbalances all the distinguished merit of *Killibarren*; and I must again be passive under the most disgusting importunities. The generous heart of *Killibarren*, too sensibly touched with the mal-treatment I was forced to submit to, by reason of the preference he held in my affections, has been under the most deplorable perplexities : that cordial duty which attached him to the interest of *Argyle*, rendered it impracticable for him to operate with his own, my relief, otherwise both of us should, long ere now, have embraced a voluntary banishment, and retreated far beyond the power of a dissolute court, and the hateful persecution of the most infamous parasite in the whole of its circle.

When the good Thane of *Argyle*, in order to preserve the life of a son, which was dearer to him than his own, surrendered himself

himself into the hands of the murderous Tyrant, my *Killibarren*, disguised as a woman, attended, till the Thane's fate should be decided, at a cottage not far from my father's house ; and it was in this delectable retirement, known alone to the Thane and me, where, loving and beloved, we mutually consecrated to one another those vows dissolvable only by Heaven itself. But alas ! those innocent, though stolen, enjoyments, were little permanent ; the Thane was treacherously murdered ; the cottage, as well as every other corner of the country, was rummaged for his adherents ; the dear possessor of my heart disappeared ; I counted him dead, was seized with a languishment which threatened to put a speedy period to my sad existence, which nothing else could have sustained, but that I was thereby freed from the pursuits of the so much abhorred *Calender*. You know, Madam, (continued the disconsolate *Isabella*) how long, and how doubtfully for life or death, I lingered under a consuming illness ; but some weeks ago, a dawn of unexpected hope reanimated my decaying spirits ; the cottager's daughter, who now and then watched in my sickness, being one day habited in part of the apparel which disguised the unfortunate *Killibarren*, accidentally pulling from one
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of the pockets a round piece of slate, I imagined I observed some characters upon it; I asked her what it was, and desired her to shew it me; she told me she knew not what it was, she had found it in the pocket after the gentleman, who passed for a woman at their hut, was gone, and that she had kept it ever since; she gave it me, and a precious jewel it was; See here, says she, taking it from her snowy bosom, you can trace the gravings of "*Isabella's K, lives, and will only live for her!*" O the comforting, the reviving impression! O the powerful medicine! How wonderfully has it recovered my almost extinguished faculties! It is, Madam, to the power of that balm, that I have been enabled to move this far; and in consequence of this little billet, served up to me in a basket of some fruit, I have some faint hopes of meeting this evening the only object of my cares. Be not then, dear Madam, suspicious of the virtue of *Isabella*; her soul never once was susceptible to a tainted sentiment! She was proceeding, when their ears were attracted by the steps of some body approaching. The eager *Isabella*, entertaining no other idea than of her long absent *Killibarren*, gave the signal to her companion to withdraw; but how miserably was she alarmed, when, in place of the most amiable,

able, she beheld, to her, the most detestable of mankind, that infamous enemy to virtue, the abandoned *Calender*, muffled up under the disguise of a riding-coat! She screamed out with all the feeble vehemence she could collect: at first he endeavoured to soften her by a profusion of amorous protestations, all which she treated with the most indignant repugnance: he then told her, that her person, fortune, fame, and even her life, were now at his disposal; she was his property by the concurrent disposition of her parents; and she was at the King's mercy, from a proof of her having been in a secret correspondence with an enemy and traitor to the state. These last expressions aroused her smothered antipathy; Those (replied she sharply) are the most unworthy of all traitors, who dare instigate their king to the exercise of injustice and oppression, and to ruin, pillage, and ravish the unoffending! Know, Sir, it is in that light I have viewed the execrable *Calender*! in so much, that if you was the only man on earth, *Isabella* could never meet you with her love. The enraged *Calender* laid hold of the trembling victim; told her, in coarsest language, that it now mattered not whether she approved him or not; but swore, before they parted, he would enjoy by force what she had so long denied to sollicitation.

Think how wildly I was in that moment agitated, to behold innocence and beauty, and that innocence and beauty which had awakened in me all the filial respect and gratitude which her warm attachment to the noble instrument of my existence could call forth, now exposed to the violation of a flagitious ruffian! to the humane propensity of protecting the innocent, and discharging so immense a debt due to the friends of a worthy father; think, I say, when in the author of this violation, I saw before my eyes the inhuman murderer of that father, how the terror of the *one*, and the rapacity of the *other*, affected me, then in a situation which restrained my offering relief without the imminent hazard of my own life, which was, however, a very light consideration, compared to the much weightier one of exposing my only benefactor, *Angus's* daughter, the dearest object of my soul, and all his family, to inevitable destruction. To speak, would have been to little purpose; I had no weapon near me that could reach the ravager; the wall was of such a height, that I must have maimed myself by an attempt to descend it; the natural feebleness of *Isabella* rendered her incapable of resistance; in groans of agony, she lay motionless and speechless in the villain's power; and he, pitiless to
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her expressive sighs, was proceeding, by base indecencies, to perpetrate his horrid purpose, when I got upon the wall, intending, at all events, to jump down upon him; part of the wall crumbled down, which alarmed the guilty villain; he left his prey for a moment, to look round him; I profited of the advantage which was presented me by the mouldering wall; and loosening some of the stones, at length became master of one so large, that I just could move it. with this stone in my grasp, I watched my opportunity, and directing its fall, I had the good luck to founder him to the ground. I repeated the blow, by aiming twenty more at his guilty head, till at last his impious groanings, and disability to move himself, gave me hopes that *Isabella* was in that juncture rescued: in a little time, I had the satisfaction to discover, that she raised herself from the ground, and in fearful trembling steps, endeavoured to steal herself from the frightful scene: I then loosened and tumbled over a good deal more of the wall, so as to give the whole the appearance of accident, and immediately retired very quietly to my apartments.

‘ The dead body of *Calender* was found the next morning, almost covered with rubbish and stones: his partisans conjecturing that it must have been some body from our

garden; I was immediately suggested to the King, represented as mischievous in my nature, and an inherent enemy to the King's adherents. *Macbeth*, in extreme concern for the death of *Calender*, who was in reality become his chief favourite, deputed two or three of his nearest relations to visit the garden, and make a strict examination into the circumstances. *Eugenia* had missed me longer than usual that evening; she caught the alarm, questioned me about it, and I candidly related to her the fact. Whilst the courtiers were inspecting the place, she officiously threw herself in the way; and when she heard the circumstances of the accident, and fearing the fatal effect it might have upon me, she affected a hearty sorrow, and, in presence of the inspectors, cast herself at her father's feet, imploring his forgiveness, if any accident had happened; said she was by chance walking there in the dusk of the evening, and her ears being surprised with an uncommon noise from without the wall, she attempted to loosen a stone to raise her so high as to see over it, when, to her wonder, a considerable part of the wall gave way, fell to the other side, and frightened her out of her wits. The simplicity of this self-accusation had the intended effect, and the inquirers departed, fully satisfied that the misfortune
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of their friend was purely the consequence of chance. How soon they were gone, the Thane and his fair daughter being joined by me, I had the mortification to hear her chid for being so inattentive to what she was about, which the Thane aggravated, by the distress he said she might have innocently involved me into, as the only person suspectable in his family. I was on the point of diverting his admonitions from the undeserving to the real object of them, which *Eugenia* perceiving, suddenly prevented me, by offering her hand, and telling me, that our drawing-master had waited long for us.—Let the selfish vanity of mankind, which arrogates to itself, in prejudice of the gentler, though more faithful sex, all ~~the~~ capacity for heroism, blush when they hear of this unexampled instance of the noblest friendship! You will not then wonder, my dear friends, who can relish the force of such transcendent generosity, that I respect and admire my *Eugenia* as the most perfect model of both beauty and sentiment. I am sorry that want of intelligence obliges me so abruptly to leave the lamentable *Isabella*: all our inquiries have never since been able to trace her any farther than that night of danger; she fled from the severities of her parents, but where, or how, it must be left to time to

inform us. I wish she may not have proved to be one of many dreadful sacrifices to the unreasonable rigour of unfeeling parents, who falsely judging, that the greatest human happiness is only to be purchased by fortune or grandeur, often precipitate their more susceptible offspring to grasp even at the shadows of felicity, in order to escape parental austerities; for if paternal admonitions and filial duties prove ineffectual, restriction and severity will, in place of prevailing, but aggravate the rising desires. When growing passions are checked by rigorous restraint, they court every opportunity, howsoever perilous, to gratify the smothered inclination; the interviews of the parties must of necessity be more private and retired; the more exquisite the temptation, the more unguarded the believing hearts of the most innocent lovers; and where the passion happens not to be under the guidance of unabating honour on both sides, a too implicit confidence may often land in the ruin of the most deserving virgin! a fate which is more to be dreaded by an affectionate parent, than the most dismal consequences that can attend matrimony in extremest indigence.—But to return; if you think of that affectionate sympathy, which had already grown so naturally into a mutual approbation between the dear

Eugenia

Eugenia and me, you who can feel, will easily conceive what strong impressions such an unexampled instance of the noblest generosity made upon my astonished senses: add to this, that *Eugenia* now advancing to her fourteenth year, began to disclose, with the rare accomplishments of a most elevated understanding, the blossoms of a personal beauty, that promised every perfection to be hoped for in the human constitution. It was on this occasion, that pouring out my grateful sentiments over her acquiescing bosom, both of us, I believe, begun to feel other emotions than those which had hitherto been the pure result of reciprocal approbation and esteem: I avowed to her the new, the tender sensations by which I then was agitated; I desired her to help me, if she could, to the use of such emphatic words as might best express them: it is, said I, more than gratitude, more than friendship, it is more than esteem, more than approbation, even more than admiration, and yet it is something that comprehends them all! O my incomparable *Eugenia*! it must be what we have sometimes read of; it must be what has been planted in my soul by Heaven, unknown to me; it must be love! I am never pleased but when you are with me; I am ever uneasy when you are out of my sight; my highest delight is in the

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the charms of your voice ; to touch you is a sort of enchantment ! Was ever such felicity before found in confinement ? If this is captivity, let me never be free, if that freedom must separate me from *Eugenia* !

‘ The unusual expressive blushes which now adorned the natural beauties of *Eugenia*, gave her, in spite of every possible delicacy, the most penetrating countenance. Abashed, and yet free from shame, she modestly replied, I have never, my dear *Lorn*, disguised my sentiments from you, nor will I now ; that esteem, that friendship, with which I have ever regarded you, I find, as well as you, have grown to a height, that our best readings but ill describe : it is impossible, continued she, that my company can be more pleasing to you, than yours is delightful to me ; if it is love, let it be so ; although I blush, it should be no reproach to own it ; it was planted in the soil of innocence, and reared up in the sunshine of virtue. In such endearing conversations did the lovely *Eugenia* and I pass the early years of irreprehensible communion. The Thane and Lady *Angus* perceived our attachments, and happily it was not disgusting to them. Her mother, upon her death-bed, bequeathed her to my arms with unreserved satisfaction ; and nothing retarded the consummation of our felicity, but that

we durst not trust any mortal to give it the ceremonial sanction. At length, and but a short while before our flight, one honest old clergyman, whose years had then placed him beyond the observation of a guilty court, sought an asylum for his age, and was entertained by the Thane: he gave the hymeneal completion to our loves. Loving and beloved, we could then taste of ~~those~~ joys, unknown to impurity, but chastely longed for by those whose passions are limited by virtue. Love, prompted by lust, is ever indelicate; prompted by ambition, it is seldom reciprocal; and if conveniency is the only motive, it can never be ardent. But in mine and *Eugenia's*, delicacy, union and ardour, all concurred to consummate, with exquisite delight, our warmest wishes.

Lorn would have continued his narration, but was interrupted by a messenger, who called upon *Edmund* to meet some strangers who had just alighted at his gate.

Edmund, after a short interval, returned, and with a remarkable satisfaction in his countenance, introduced two gentlemen, one of whom was very quickly recognized by the *Scotch* Thanes to be an intimate companion and kinsman to the Thane of *Fife*. *Glamis* cordially saluted him; *Angus* was advancing for the same purpose, when

Hamton

Hamton (a) (so the gentleman was named) started back with the wildest look of consternation, astonished to behold the man who, he still supposed, was minister, and an abettor of *Macbeth*, in the society of those whose aid he had come to solicit for that tyrant's extirpation. However, the mystery was soon unravelled, and gained entire credit by a brief explanation from *Glamis*. Young *Lorn* was made known, and a general harmony was conspicuous on every face. *Edmund* held in his hand a mandate from King *Edward*, forbidding all his faithful subjects on the coasts and borders of *England*, to hold any sort of correspondence with *Macbeth*, the pretended King of *Scotland*, nor with any of his adherents or abettors; but to aid and support, to the utmost of their powers, *Malcolm*, the undoubted and lawful heir to the crown of that kingdom. As the purport of this mandate filled every heart with unspeakable joy, they were impatient to know by what happy means it had been so successfully obtained; *Hamton*, with pleasure, proceeded thus to satisfy them.

(a) Afterwards *Hamilton*.

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When the noble Thane of *Macduff*, said he, took the resolution of flying from *Scotland*, his breast was full of the glorious purpose: he knew that *Malcolm*, whom he had always considered as his King since the murder of his father, was grandson to *Sibert* Duke of *Northumberland*, a nobleman of the first quality, and of great family connections in *England*: he learned also, that no nobleman at that court had more interest, or was held in higher consideration with the renowned Earl *Godwin*, who was then a chief in the administration of *English* policy. On his arrival in *England*, he understood, after some inquiry, that *Malcolm* was then at court; thither he directed his journey as fast as possible. The variety of devices that had been attempted to inveigle *Malcolm* down to *Scotland* by emissaries from *Macbeth*, had made him very shy and difficult of access to the natives of that kingdom; however, *Macduff* had himself introduced; and after the strongest assurances of his loyal allegiance, he endeavoured to arouse the dormant resentment of *Malcolm* against the murderer of his father, and the dishonour of his country; he expatiated upon the present unpopularity and detestable character of the Tyrant; bid him remember, that as he was the offspring of royal progenitors, he ought to summon up an active,
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princely spirit, and endeavour, not only for his own sake, but for the sake of a groaning people, who would consider themselves as committed to his charge by the King of Kings, to recover his paternal dignity, and thereby carry relief to an oppressed and spoiled nation. *Macduff* concluded, by telling him, that he considered himself as the representative of every mortal in *Scotland*, in whose breasts there remained the smallest sparks of honour or of virtue; that it was in their names, not in his own only, that he had hazarded all that was precious to him, to discover the true state of things to his King, with whom he was ready to share in the worst, or the best dispensations of fortune.

* *Malcolm*, uncommonly cautious for his years, listened with greedy attention, but replied with suspicion: he was desirous to make a very sure trial of *Macduff's* sincerity; and therefore, suppressing those emotions which he really felt, “ I am not insensible (said he) to the oppressions under which my country bleeds; nor do I imagine that the tyrannies imputed to the Usurper are by any means exaggerated; and the inducements for a Prince to enterprize a reformation in such a case, are doubtless very urging: but I am afraid, my good Thane, your instances would not
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be so pressing with me to assume the regal authority, if you was better acquainted with my native dispositions. Let me not deceive you then, but fairly confess, that the same vices which have already been the ruin of many kings, lust and avarice, are too predominant in me, not to defeat the very purposes you expect from me. It is true, that my want of power, and the private condition I have lived in, have so greatly restrained the exertion of them, that the world think more favourably of me than I deserve; but was I to be cloathed with kingly power and uncontrollable authority, the reins which at present are a check upon these vices, would be loosened, and my hearkening to your importunities on this head, might more probably involve us in greater miseries, than restore to you and the country that tranquillity you hope for." *Macduff* wondered; but calmly observed, That the first step towards reformation, was to have a sense of those errors which were apt to misguide us; that a rambling desire for women was natural to the most of young men, but was often conquered by the more solid and agreeable pleasures that were to be found in the arms of a well chosen companion for life; that the more unmanly lust of avarice had been often propagated by the apprehensions of want,

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the fear of which would be totally banished from the breast of *Malcolm*, so soon as he should accomplish the possession of his father's dominions; and finally said, that that avarice must indeed be extremely insatiable, which is not to be satisfied with the revenues of a kingdom. *Malcolm* persisted in objecting; and concluded by telling him, that there were still other weaknesses, and yet more unbecoming a king, which he knew himself liable to, and which would make him and the nation sadly repent of their choice, should he acquiesce in their loyal invitation: There is (says he) no truth nor sincerity in me! Undeserving of confidence myself, I can put confidence in no man! I am by nature changeable, incapable of forming friendships; and so unreasonably suspicious, that those who should be the most forward in my service, might be the first who should feel the sad effects of my jealous temper; for from the inconstancy of my own nature, I judge of the dispositions of all other men. At this moment (continued he) my jealousy moves me to the strongest suspicions against the honesty of *Macduff*.

‘ *Macduff*, unable to confine any longer his swelling indignation, exclaimed, from heart-felt distress; Avaunt then, thou disgrace to royalty! thou dishonour to thy family!

family ! O my country ! O my bleeding country ! Are all hopes of thy redemption thus past away ? It must not be ; that crown which the dastard son of *Duncan* confesses himself unworthy to wear, may well be an additional ornament to the brow of the more meritorious *Edward* ! I go about it ; he shall be invited to conquer, and to enjoy it. *Macduff* appeared ready to abandon him ; but *Malcolm*, fully satisfied of the Thane's sincerity, caught hold of him ; Stay, my dear Thane, said he, stay, thou pattern of loyal patriotism ; forgive the trial I have made of thy fidelity, which thou hast so well proved by that indignant passion which the supposed frailties, even of the man you desire to make your sovereign, has inspired you with ! How different yours from the sycophantish behaviour of those emissaries employed to seduce me by *Macbeth* ? the more villainous I could represent myself to them, the more they courted me, the more they counted me fit for the vile purposes of a prostituted government : it was therefore, my dear *Macduff*, that I was afraid of every temptation that was presented to me to regain my country ; it was therefore that I arraigned myself as a wretch under the dominion of such vicious principles, as my honest soul shuddered within me at the bare mention of ! But I am convinced ; it is not

the greatness of your fortune, the grandeur of your family, nor the reputation of your honour, that has thus convinced me; it is a nobleness, a sanctity of manners, better expressed through your looks than from your tongue, that disposes me now to embrace you with all the confidence of a trusty friend. Be then my *Mentor*, lead me on to the arduous, the glorious task, of getting justice for my suffering country, my injured family, and oppressed people!—If the soul of *Macduff* was at first tortured with the odious picture which *Malcolm* had presented of himself, what joy did he now feel in beholding the reverse? He fell down before him! hailed him King! and drawing his sword, vowed never more to sheath it, until he should see the sovereignty, credit, and tranquillity of his country, restored. Thus the strictest and most cordial engagements being mutually concluded, it was immediately resolved, by the interest of *Malcolm's* grandfather and the Earl *Godwin*, to supplicate assistance from King *Edward*, who, by the way, had hitherto been deaf to every suggestion of that sort; for amidst all the dissipation which so much scandalized the court of *Macbeth*, he had still had policy enough, by maintaining a submissive correspondence with the court of *England*, to keep up such an alliance with *Edward*, as

to

to screen himself from so dangerous a resentment : and at this very juncture he kept one of the most politic of his creatures, whom he had dignified with the title of Thane of *Monteith*, as his representative in *England* for that purpose. *Monteith*, who was extremely artful, was a constant spy upon every motion of *Malcolm's* ; and having traced him in his most secret interviews with *Macduff* ; and easily guessing at their purpose, took care to get *Macduff* represented to the court of *England* in such a disadvantageous light, as to weaken his applications. But in the height of these difficulties, I happened to arrive, and brought to *Macduff* the first account of the woeful barbarities which had been perpetrated in his family. With what heart-rending horrors did he hear the shocking tale ! He flew to *Malcolm*, whose generous heart was no less penetrated with the sad relation than his own. *Malcolm* taking *Macduff* and myself alongst with him, went immediately to court, demanded and obtained an audience of *Edward* ; before whom I was examined ; and producing other well authenticated vouchers of every circumstance of the fatal catastrophe, so effectually awakened sympathy and resentment in the soul of good King *Edward*, that he instantly resolved, maugre all other considerations,

to support *Malcolm* through the difficult operations he had undertaken ; and, as the first proof of his being in earnest, he issued immediate orders to forbid *Monteith*, or any other on the part of *Macbeth*, to enter the court of England ; and further ordered, that *Monteith* should retire from *England* within three days. Nothing now remaining to obstruct our solicitations at the court of *Edward*, five thousand chosen men were mustered, and put under the command of the Duke of *Northumberland*, who, accompanied by *Malcolm*, are actually on their march hither, that they may be joined by an equal number of borderers ; and as soon as completed, they have orders to proceed directly for *Scotland* : upon entering that kingdom, *Malcolm* is to be proclaimed King, to set up the *Scotch* standard, and then to have the command of the whole, as well *English* as *Scotch*. It would be torturing language to search for words to express the joy that now appeared in every face, when Mr. *Hamton* had finished his interesting relation ; and a few days more added to it a very affecting circumstance. It should have been sooner observed, that the generous *Edmund*, impatient to consummate the felicity of his admired guests, had freighted a small vessel, and dispatched her to *Ila*, there to make inquiry after the
venerable

venerable Thane of *Argyle*. This vessel now returned, and blessed the expecting company with the presence of that noble Thane, attended by the brave and faithful *Killibarren*, a name the reader is not a stranger to. Fain would the author attempt a description of those different and lively sensations which at this joyful conjuncture must have been communicated from one to another of this transported assembly; but it would be in vain! Think, sensible reader, of the virtuous *Lorn*, surprised with the appearance of a most respectable parent, whom, from his earliest years, even until *almost* now, he had been taught to lament as dead! Think, I say, what must be those filial feelings which then enchanted him; and add to it, that paternal fondness distinguished in every feature of a father, who had already counted so lightly of hazarding his fortune and his life for the preservation of a darling son! You must suppose it all: the most powerful efforts of poetry or painting would but ill describe them. Suffice it then to say, that such another display of contentment and reciprocal happiness was never perhaps so eminent in one and the same society.

Edmund was so entirely transported with the joyous prospect of seeing these worthy noblemen regain their native liberty

berty and possessions, that he forgot himself as in retirement: he got his equipages ready; and proposing to accompany his friends in their expedition, he was extremely active in levying troops to join them. A few days only passed, when they received a courier from *Malcolm*, to let them know, that the Duke of *Northumberland*, with the van of the *English* army, was advanced as far as *Halifax* in *Yorkshire*, and was proceeding to *Lancaster*, where he would halt two days, to wait the junction of their friends in these parts; thence pass through *Cumberland*, make another halt at *Carlisle* for three days, and then enter *Scotland* with all possible expedition. Upon this intelligence, the generous *Edmund*, the Thanes of *Argyle* and *Glamis*, *Lorn*, *Killibarren*, and *Mr. Hamton*, were all accoutred, and ready, at the head of about 400 men, to march to join their friends at *Lancaster*. The Thane of *Angus*, notwithstanding all entreaties, and that every one of the company was now become as sincerely his friend, as they had formerly been the reverse, would by no means be prevailed with to undertake a share in the enterprize. He said, that although their condescendance for him had induced them to excuse his administration in *Scotland*, that the people in general of that country would not see

fee with fo favourable eyes; and that as diffidence was a faculty more natural to mankind than approbation, he was afraid, that his appearing with the army in the character his birth intitled him to, might rather hurt than forward his Sovereign's cause; besides, he said, he could not totally exculpate himself, for that too slavish submission with which he had so long bended to the will of tyranny; that his upright intentions, and the few laudable actions for which their goodness had justified the whole purport of his conduct, did not amount to a sufficient absolution in his own mind: that it was his resolution never more to return to *Scotland*, but to linger out the rest of his existence in penitence, with the good real Hermit who had assisted in saving his life. Every body endeavoured to dissuade him from this resolution, but in vain: *Argyle*, and *Lorn*, his son-in-law, importuned him in the most moving language; he was determined; and concluded by telling his noble friend *Argyle*, that as for many years past, the only circumstance which made life worthy of his care, was the concern which paternal love inspired him with for the preservation and happiness of *Lorn* and his darling daughter; and as that was now devolved upon another, much more able and respectable parent, he would retire from the world

world with pleasure settle his accounts with Heaven, and pray unwearied for their success and prosperity. It was even with difficulty, that the pious tears of his daughter, enforced with the persuasive eloquence of the amiable *Bertba*, could prevail with him to postpone his self-seclusion, that he might by his company mitigate a little of that tiresomeness which they were willingly to suffer during the absence of their Lords. To their solicitations, however, at length he yielded; and every thing being now as much settled at the house of *Edmund*, as, under such interesting circumstances, could possibly be, a very affecting farewell separated the different parties:

In a few days our patriots arrived at *Lancaster*, and with their Squadron joined the main body. Never was there a more cordial meeting than now felicitated the hopeful Chieftans: *Malcolm*, with joy unutterable, welcomed his venerable friends, the Thanes of *Argyle* and *Glamis*; and *Macduff*, unable to confine his transport, interrupted even the greetings of his King: ‘Thrice welcome (cried he) my noble fellow sufferers! Let me congratulate you and myself on the eminent prospect now presented to us of chastising a long exerted tyranny and oppression over a groaning country! What unexampled excitements have we to
lead

lead us on to the glorious enterprize! But it is useless to waste time to instigate you; you feel as warmly as I do; but you must forgive the overflowings of a friend's heart, who by one effort of the Tyrant's barbarity, was beggared! dishonoured! widowed! and rendered childless! Yours and our country's wrongs may, and, by the help of God, they will be redressed; but mine, alas! never can; O my wife! O my children!' The sensible heart of *Edmund* was ready to burst, on perceiving the manly anguish which thus overcame the gallant *Macduff*; when *Glamis*, by a seasonable interruption of the growing distress, gave a turn to the woeful subject, by recommending to *Macduff's* attention the illustrious *Edmund*, and relating some of his exalted virtues.

The Duke of *Northumberland* had taken the advantage of the halt to pass through *Westmoreland*, and thence into his own country, to give the necessary orders in those parts; and proposed only to rejoin the army at *Carlisle*; for which place they next day continued their march, under the command of *Malcolm*: and now considerable reinforcements from the *Scotch* side were adding every hour to their strength, when the van arrived at *Carlisle*. The Duke entered it the same day at the head of 1500 *Northumbrians*

brians and *Cumberland-men*: the Duke of *Northumberland* quickly recognized his kinsman *Edmund*, and was overjoyed to see him once more in a scene of action; nor was he less happy on being made acquainted with the renowned *Thanes* of *Argyle* and *Glamis*, and the Lord of *Lorn*, the patriotic fame of each of whom had reached and often charmed his ears. It was then they held the first council of war. They received intelligence from the *Scots* who had joined them, many of whom had embraced the first opportunity of flying from under the command of tyranny, that *Macbeth* having heard of the march of the *English*, and fearing a revolt of the Southern *Scots*, had actually advanced, with such an army as he could muster, as far as the *Tiviot* hills, and had formed several flying encampments, intending thereby not only to interrupt the revolting *Scots* from joining with the *English*, but to offer the *English* battle from some advantageous post among the hills; but that having heard of the numbers of the *English* army, which had been greatly magnified, and that the *Thanes* of *Argyle* and *Glamis* (both of whom he counted dead) as well as *Macduff*, were with them, he was struck with horror and dismay, and immediately meditated a retreat; judging, if he should be compelled to give battle at last,

last, he should fight with more advantage in the North, be more in the centre of his adherents, and be better able to fatigue and harraß the *English* troops, by marches thro' hills and mountains they were not accustomed with.

Mean while the confederate army (for so they may now be stiled) moved into *Scotland* without the smallest interruption. The standard of *Malcolm* was set up at *An-nand*; he was proclaimed King of *Scotland* amidst resounding acclamations of applause, and took upon him the command of the whole army: he confirmed in *Sibert*, his grandfather, the chief command of the *English*, and appointed his illustrious friend *Edmund* a lieutenant-general; and the same rank for *Scotland* was bestowed upon *Argyle*, *Glamis*, and *Macduff*. They continued marching, and accumulating numbers every hour. The *English* troops were astonished, when at this time they found themselves in the heart of a country, where they imagined they were to meet their enemies, not to see nor hear of any but friends, and the most joyful salutations of a hearty welcome: they therefore proceeded in such spirits, as must have subdued *Macbeth*, if he could have assembled an army equal to *Malcolm's*.

Macbeth perceiving that his army hourly diminished, at length, unwilling at any rate

to hazard a battle, betook himself for safety to his castle of *Dunfinane*, and formed a scattered sort of encampment around it, composed of those adherents, who having so long associated with him in every sort of criminality, knew that their only chance to escape such a fate as was the due to unremitting villanies, was to risk their lives alongst with their leader.

The royal party continued their advances to *Dunfinane*; and at *Bernham* wood, as a token that they hoped to accomplish a conquest without slaughter, the troops, by order of *Malcolm*, plumed their hats with oaken boughs; and then making a motion for surrounding the castle, *Macbeth*, who had taken a view of them from a turret, was hopeless and confounded! he regarded their strength, numbers, and regularity, as irresistible! Consciousness now penetrated his guilty soul; he was desperate and distracted; he threatened his own, and the life of every person who came near him: his wife, who had been at all times ready to assist in his schemes of cruelty, was more obnoxious to him than a haggard witch; he reproached her with the most pungent upbraidings; she recriminated with equal fury and desperation; and they were often on the point of hurrying each other into that eternity, which of all things they dreaded

dreaded the most, but which would not have been deferred a single moment by any thing less than the terrible picture which their cankered consciences had formed of it. They flew, despondent, from the hateful sight of one another; and in fine, he, and the whole of his party, being overwhelmed in the same marks of despair, became the most hideous objects of one another. *Dunfinane* now was hell in epitome! every moving figure bore the resemblance of a devil! At length the enemy being just ready, with sword in hand, to force the gates, *Macbeth* disguised himself in the habit of a common trooper, and leaving his friends at the mercy of the conquerors, and anxious, as a condemned malefactor, to postpone the awful plunge, sought his escape through a private postern. By this time the royal troops had entered the castle: *Macduff*, from whose breast the ideas of spoiled honour, the unpitied sighs of a ravished and murdered wife, and the unmoving cries of massacred children, could never be banished, was the first that forced his way; he ran, fearless, to and fro, in search of the spoiler; at length one of the banditti, hoping to recommend himself to mercy, pointed out the little back gate through which the monster had fled; *Macduff* pursued, and found him, with a few of his partisans, attempting to scramble

over a wall, the corner of a bastion: the noise of *Macduff's* shouting alarmed the delinquents, whose escape being now impracticable, a false bravery grew upon their despair: *Macbeth* turned, with all the briskness he could summon, to defend himself; and *Macduff*, who, maugre his disguise, instantly knew him, singled him out for his immediate vengeance: the Tyrant fought with skill; but guiltiness enfeebling his nerves, he was unequal to the superior force of *Macduff's* unerring arm, which, after a few slighter passes, by one furious and well aimed blow, brought him, reeling, in mutterings unsanctified, to the ground! The vengeful *Macduff* repeated his blows, and could not restrain himself from pushing home every wound with exprobatations on the massacre of his family.

Thus fell the wretch who had got himself exalted to dignities by virtues to which he had been schooled, but which not being natural to him, he could not persevere in; and had disgraced the character of a Prince by the exercise of vices which had been born with him, but which he had the guile to smother whilst in the rank of a private person.

The shame of womankind, the instigator, as well as partner of all his flagitiousness, his wife, was found dead next day in the outside of the castle; she having, in the transport

transport of despondency, flung herself over the wall of one of the ramparts. *Malcolm* ordered both their bodies to be decently buried, in respect to the families they had the honour to be sprung from; but their heads, that the memory of their wickedness might serve as an antidote to posterity, were exhibited to public view upon two spears erected on the top of a high tower; and between them there was raised the figure of a serpent with a double head, each head inclining to those of the victims, as if hissing, and equally directing its baneful influence at both of them. His adherents, excepting such as, through their resistance, were slain, were all made prisoners. A court extraordinary was ordained to try them, when *Malcolm* was graciously pleased to remit the crime of rebellion, and to declare those only condemnable to suffer death, against whom there were separate proofs of murders, rapes, or other violent depredations; an example of justice tempered with a clemency worthy the imitation of more enlightened ages.

Never was so sudden a revolution accomplished with so little bloodshed, nor was there ever a restoration of right with more universal applause. The unanimity which governed the *English* and *Scottish* Chiefs, prevented the least tendency to
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jealousies; and the *English* troops returned to their own kindom with the satisfaction of having been instrumental, without the loss of a man, of re-establishing their neighbouring nation in a state of tranquillity unknown to them for many years; leaving behind them, as well as carrying with them, an early proof of the great utility of a cordial union between so near neighbours, when combined in the great cause of liberty and justice.

A day was named for the coronation of *Malcolm* at *Scoon*; and at his earnest intreaties, his grandfather and the noble *Edmund* were prevailed upon to be witnesses of the solemnity. The day appointed came, and immediately after *Malcolm* had taken the coronation oath, the venerable Thane of *Argyle* delivered himself to this effect:

‘ I trust in God, my Sovereign Liege,
 ‘ that the virtues of your own constitution,
 ‘ more than the dreadful example of your
 ‘ wicked predecessor, will guide you against
 ‘ all the errors of the past reign:
 ‘ with the regal dignity, you are invested
 ‘ with the disposal of places of profit, of
 ‘ power and of honour: be these bestowed
 ‘ without partiality; let the weight of merit,
 ‘ not the chance of birth, be intitled
 ‘ to preference in the purchase. Society
 ‘ was instituted by heaven, and a desire for

' it impelled in the mind from the creation
 ' of the world; without it, existence would
 ' have been a burden; The good of that
 ' society, we may believe, was the great
 ' aim of the Omnipotent Being who formed
 ' it: You are his vicegerent; and the
 ' happiness of your *people* ought to be
 ' your first, your chief and constant study,
 ' if you hope to acquit yourself as an ho-
 ' nest man before that King, who had the
 ' power to make you *theirs*, and by whose
 ' indulgence alone you can expect to reign
 ' happily. You may now look upon your-
 ' self as the favourite of Heaven; so for a
 ' while might *Macbeth*! and so he might
 ' have continued, had he acted consistently
 ' with the sacred oaths he took, and which
 ' you have now taken: but he deviated
 ' from the paths of virtue; he gave a loose
 ' to vicious passions; he valued only such
 ' favourites as flattered his vices; he for-
 ' sook the true interests of his people, and
 ' the King of Kings forsook him. Of all
 ' other mischiefs, beware of *favourites*!
 ' A Governor should have no state favou-
 ' rites, but such whose conduct has ren-
 ' dered them worthy the confidence of the
 ' governed; the laws will then exert their
 ' vigour without obstruction; there will be
 ' no murmurings; criminals will calmly
 ' submit to punishments, because they are
 ' inflicted

' inflicted by laws of their own approving;
 ' To say that a King is to have no personal
 ' favourites, would be to say, that the King
 ' must be more than human; it is absurd;
 ' whilst a King is mortal, he will be under
 ' the influence of mortal passions; but let
 ' him be careful to distinguish between the
 ' *favourite* of his private amusements, and
 ' the *favourite* of public administrations.
 ' the difference may be likened unto that
 ' of a gentleman's family; a very sensible
 ' worthy man may be inspired with affec-
 ' tions for different companions, who may
 ' lighten his cares, divert his leisure hours,
 ' and be in many respects most agreeable
 ' to him; yet, perhaps, amongst all these
 ' his most approved friends, he may not
 ' find one properly qualified to be a pre-
 ' ceptor for his children. Such a depart-
 ' ment requires talents peculiar to itself;
 ' it requires an application to the various
 ' tempers to be dealt with, which very few
 ' of these most esteemed friends, if they
 ' have the understanding, have also the pa-
 ' tience to bestow upon them. So it is,
 ' my Liege, in the family political, the
 ' state: you will discover in many of your
 ' nobles different qualities, that may ren-
 ' der them personally amiable to you; but
 ' he is a prodigy of a man, who possesses
 ' every qualification necessary to an admi-
 ' nistrator..

' nistrator. There are none of us totally
 ' free from vanity; and how soon we can
 ' gain a King's favour for us in one point,
 ' we flatter our own abilities, we suppose
 ' we are omniscious, and then labour to
 ' worm ourselves so entirely into power,
 ' that it is too late for our master to look
 ' at things through his own eyes, he must
 ' look through ours. Others, who do not
 ' consider us with the same prejudices, are
 ' more inquisitive into our foibles: when
 ' we have arrived at the summit of our am-
 ' bition, we are less anxious to please, we
 ' are less upon our guard, and our weak-
 ' nesses are discovered; these weaknesses
 ' are imputed to the King; and thus, on
 ' account of a designing *favourite*, has the
 ' best of kings become often the derision,
 ' sometimes the detestation, of his subjects.
 ' Be then cautious, my Liege, let me again
 ' repeat it, be cautious in the choice of
 ' your ministers; if you have a personal
 ' favourite, honour him with your esteem
 ' for those good dispositions which have re-
 ' commended him; but unless he has the
 ' concurring voice of your subjects, let him
 ' be the last man you would pitch upon for
 ' your minister, lest the prejudices pre-
 ' conceived in his favour should make you
 ' blind to errors which will be perceived
 ' by your people, who by reason of your
 ' preference,

‘ preference, will be the more suspicious;
 ‘ and, next to God, it is to his people to
 ‘ whom a king is accountable. But should
 ‘ a *popular minister* deviate (which may
 ‘ often happen) from their expectations,
 ‘ the consequence will be, that in place of
 ‘ imputing his errors to the Sovereign, it
 ‘ will have the reverse effect; they will
 ‘ blame their own choice, and with a more
 ‘ implicit confidence, throw themselves en-
 ‘ tirely upon Majesty for redress. When
 ‘ a subject, through prejudice, partiality,
 ‘ or passion, injures his neighbour, he is
 ‘ liable to the laws for the offence he has
 ‘ done against society: if a private person
 ‘ then has a legal remedy for wrongs sus-
 ‘ tained from the passions of his neighbour,
 ‘ has not the Public as just a title to redress
 ‘ for injuries sustained through the preju-
 ‘ dices of their Prince? certainly, and the
 ‘ more so, in so far as *public* is preferable
 ‘ to *individual* interest.

‘ I dwell the longer upon this subject,
 ‘ my Liege, that it was *favouritism* that
 ‘ proved a bane to the reign of your royal
 ‘ father; he was continually embarrassed
 ‘ between two favourites, the Thanes of
 ‘ *Ross* and *Caitbness*; each had his faction;
 ‘ and as the King was unwilling to disoblige
 ‘ either of them, they rose and fell alter-
 ‘ nately; they had no other views than to
 ‘ enrich

' enrich and aggrandize their respective
 ' parties; the national interest was quite
 ' neglected; the people grew discontented,
 ' they sought a change, and they have been
 ' punished by what they courted. You,
 ' my Liege, mount the throne of your fa-
 ' ther with every earthly advantage; you
 ' are seated in the love of your people;
 ' you are happy in the approbation of your
 ' nobles: Let the voice of the *public* find,
 ' on all occasions, free access to your coun-
 ' cils; and be ever suspicious of that fa-
 ' vourite who shall endeavour to suppress
 ' their complaints, or poison your ears with
 ' the baneful sound of *prerogative* and *ab-*
 ' *solute power*. A favourite will, for the most
 ' part, have some interested projects to pro-
 ' mote: from the Public voice you may
 ' sometimes hear mistaken, but rarely dis-
 ' honest counsel: the people have no in-
 ' terest to deceive you, because, by deceiv-
 ' ing you, they deceive themselves. Begin
 ' your reign by enquiring into, and re-
 ' dressing their grievances; when they are
 ' mistaken, correct them, but with a fa-
 ' therly hand, to the end that they may not
 ' fear without esteeming you. Proceed,
 ' with the assistance of your nobles and
 ' able counsellors, to collect and form
 ' from the records a system of wholesome
 ' *laws*; introductive to which, permit me,
 ' my

my Sovereign Liege, to present you with
 a *gift*, preserved from the ravaging hands
 of usurpation, which, although two hun-
 dred years old, yet which, if observed and
 wisely improved, will be a diadem no less
 ornamental to a royal heart, than a crown
 to the royal head: here, my Lige, (*pre-
 senting a scroll of parchment*) (*a*) is an
 authenticated duplicate of the *salutary
 laws* instituted by your illustrious prede-
 cessor, *Kennethus II.* when after the ex-
 tirpation of the faithless *Picts*, your an-
 cient kingdom was enlarged, and first got
 the name of *Scotland*. Let these laws be
 revised; and wherein any change of cir-
 cumstances has rendered it necessary, let
 them be altered or amended: let them
 next be proclaimed for the public sanc-
 tion; and having once got *that*, abide
 and govern by them. Nothing so con-
 temptibly betrays the feebleness of go-
 vernment, than this day to pronounce an
 edict that may please one faction, and to
 abolish it the next; to humour another:
 by such a conduct your laws will multiply;
 multiplicity of laws will generate chi-
 canery; chicanery will create expence;
 rich villainy will triumph over indigent

(*a*) See a Copy of these Laws in the Conclusion,
 at Pages 231, &c,

' honesty; and the poor will feelingly com-
 ' plain of oppression. The affiance between
 ' a king and his subjects ought to be held
 ' as the most sacred compact; it is plain of
 ' itself; it requires but few laws to establish
 ' and to maintain it; and it should never
 ' be perplexed with knotty arguments.
 ' Like a contract between husband and
 ' wife, let the laws you assent to, and your
 ' coronation oath, be an inviolable contract
 ' between you and your people; then, my
 ' Liege, they will find it their supreme
 ' happiness to love and obey their Sove-
 ' reign, as you, I hope, will find it yours,
 ' to cherish, support, and improve the
 ' rights of the Public. That it may be so,
 ' and that with a reign just, happy, and
 ' glorious, you may enjoy long life with
 ' health and satisfaction, is, and while I
 ' have breath to draw, shall be my most
 ' fervent prayer.'

This truly noble and patriotic harangue
 met with the approbation it deserved. The
 King descended from the coronation chair,
 embraced *Argyle*, and thanked him for his
 loyal and affectionate advice, with such an
 air of candid affability, as demonstrated
 that it had been sincerely agreeable to
 him.

The first act of his sovereign will was to create the Thane, Earl of *Argyle*, a title till then not known in *Scotland*: then turning immediately to the other nobles, (each of whom were soon distinguished by titles adequate to their reputation and families) he told them, "That he would begin his reign, at least, by a deference to that advice which he had with so much pleasure attended to, in conferring a new and honourable title upon the man who had had the honesty to read him so proper a lesson; and he hoped that he should thereby convince his subjects, that the most direct road to his favour should be at all times to approach him with *truth*."

The LAWS and STATUTES ordained by
King *Kennethus*, were as followeth.

I. **A**NY person that blasphemeth, or disrespecteth God or his saints, shall, in the first place, be deprived of the tongue ; and any who shall abuse the King or Chief Captain, may be punished in the same manner.

II. All men convicted of murder, shall be hanged, or lose the head ; and if convicted of theft, they shall be hanged. Any woman convicted of a capital crime, shall be drowned or buried alive.

III. Any one making lies, to the damage of his neighbour, shall lose his sword, and be banished from good company:

IV. He that ravisheth a virgin, (unless she marry him) shall be beheaded.

V. He that defileth another man's wife, shall be put to death with the woman, unless the woman be forced.

VI. He that forceth any woman, and the violence made evident, shall be beheaded, and the woman declared innocent.

VII. A wife may not be punished for a husband's crime; but a husband shall be punished for the crime of his wife, if he knew of it: if it be a concubine, she shall be punished as the man.

VIII. All oppressors, or invaders of other men's lands, shall be beheaded.

IX. All vagabonds and idle persons shall be, in the first place, marked with a burn on the cheek; and if they persevere in idleness, they may be whipt, or even hanged.

X. If any son injure his parents by word or deed, he shall first lose either tongue, hand, or foot, whereby he offended the parent, and then be hanged, and his body remain unburied.

XI. If a parent contradicts nature, and causelessly is cruel to his son; the son must seek redress from the King, or the judge of the shire.

XII. Any son who may be disloyal to the King, or to his parent, who has been, or may be born dumb, deaf, or foolish, may be disinherited.

XIII. No

XIII. No son, not even the King's son, after the death of a father, shall be deemed capable, before the age of 21, to take upon him the charge of his father's family; but that charge may be transmitted by testament to some kinsman; and in default of testament on the King's part, the kinsman is to be chosen by the King's counsellors; or if a subject, the nearest of kin, he being *compos mentis*. The eldest son of the King, a noble, or honourable, is of right, and if habile, to inherit the power, lands and honours, of the father, as the father came to them, or even if he has added to them; yet it may be in a father's power to divide what moveable goods or wealth he may in his own time have acquired, amongst his other offspring, according to their deserts: but if the father himself has made no such division, the offspring must inherit equally. So it may be with others who have no children; they may, by a last will, bequeath their moveable riches to whom they please; but in default, the nearest of kin to inherit as an eldest son, who may nevertheless be adjudged by the King or judge of the shire to dispense with a reasonable proportion out of his estate, to prevent others who are in the same kinship, and cannot earn a livelihood, from being beggarly, or a discredit to the family.

XIV. No man shall sow his corn till the weeds be taken from the good grain ; and he that defileth his land with weeds, shall pay for the first fault an ox, for the second, ten oxen, and forfeit the land, if he transgresseth a third time.

XV. If a beast be found going astray, it shall be by the finder given to the searchers for theft, or to the parish priest, to be kept for the owner ; if it be kept up three days, the person who kept it shall be held as a thief.

XVI. If any person taketh or detaineth any kind of goods or beasts belonging to his neighbour, and restoreth not after proclamation made, he shall be deemed and punished as a thief.

XVII. If any man's cattle eat his neighbour's corn, the cattle may be poynded, till the owner redress the skaith done by his cattle.

XVIII. Swine that eat their young shall be killed, and their flesh forbidden.

XIX. Churches, altars, sacred images, chapels, oratories, priests, and all ecclesiastic persons, shall be held in reverence.

He

He that hurts a churchman in word or deed, may be punished to death, unless the churchman forgive and intercede for him.

XX. Festivals, fasts, vigils, and other solemn ceremonies of the church, shall be observed according to the ecclesiastical constitution. Sepulchres shall also be held in reverence, and a cross put on them, that none may tread thereon.

XXI. The corpses of dead persons shall be buried with a funeral according to their circumstances : if a nobleman that has done great actions, two horsemen shall pass before him to the church ; the one arrayed in his best cloathing, bearing his armour and weapons on a white horse ; the other shall pass in a mournful posture, clad in black, on a horse of the same colour ; and when the corpse is entered the church, the man riding the black horse shall turn his back to the altar, and there lament and deplore the death of the defunct ; and when the corpse is entered, he shall return the same way that he came, but the other shall offer his white horse and armour to the priest.

XXII. If a man will seduce a maiden under the age of 20, that she thereby lose her good name, he shall maintain her, (and children,

children, if any) according to her parentage, till she be married. If any man is willing to marry her, the seducer must give her a dowry according to his circumstances; and if a husband, who accepteth such wife and dowry, shall afterwards reproach her with it, he may be punished by the ordinary judge.

XXIII. To preserve order, every person who comporteth not in a kindly fashion to his equals, and respectfully to his superiors, may be fined, imprisoned or whipped, according to the degree of his offence. So may Sabbath-breakers, gluttons and drunkards, if by Sabbath-breaking, drinking or gluttony, they injure or offend their neighbour.

XXIV. That the King ordain for every shire, a man well born, who has been taught to read and write, as a competent judge, who must always reside in the shire, to decide all controversies betwixt the subjects; but in case of crimes punishable by death, the judge must call to his aid an inquest of seven, nine, eleven, thirteen, fifteen, or any other odd number of judicious men, of the same degree with the criminal, the major number of whom is to

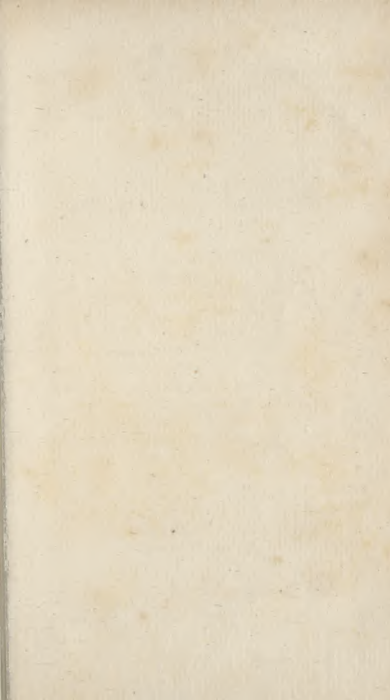
to declare, Whether he is innocent or guilty? If an ecclesiastic fall from his comportment, and, upon an inquest of clergy, shall be declared to have transgressed against any of the King's statutes, his cloak must be pulled off by a deacon, who must deliver him over to the judge of the shire, and he to deal with him as a layick.

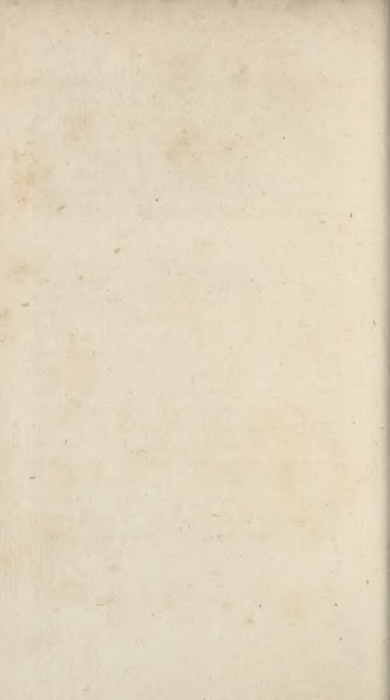
XXV. If any dispute of right should spring up between the King and a subject, the same must be decided by the major part of the King's council: and if it should be made appear to the King, with his lawful council, that any one of the judges of shires, or even any of the King's counsellors, have, from corruptibleness of heart, pronounced unfair judgment, and have not abided by the laws and institutions of the kingdom, as settled by the sacred oath of coronation, and written upon these records; such counsellor or judge, being convicted, shall, maugre the intercession of ecclesiastics, be hung by the neck, until he be dead, upon a high gibbet.

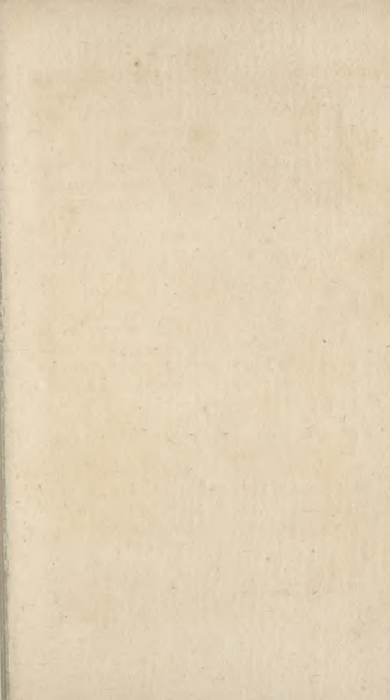
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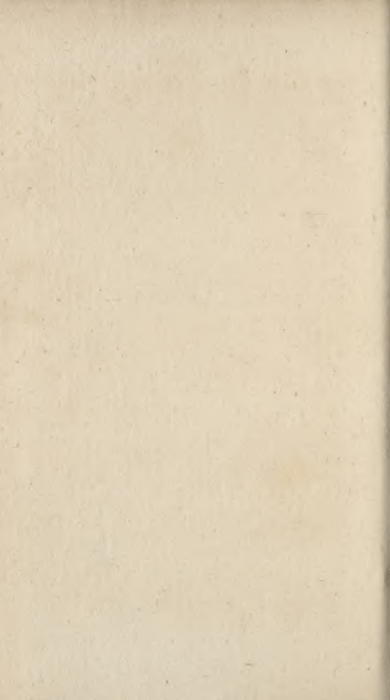
in the year 1714, when he is supposed to have been born. He was educated at the University of Oxford, and was a member of the Society of Jesus. He was a very learned man, and was much respected by his contemporaries. He died in the year 1740, at the age of 26.

The following is a list of the works of this author:—
1. *De Philosophia*, 1714.
2. *De Mathematicis*, 1715.
3. *De Physicis*, 1716.
4. *De Moribus*, 1717.
5. *De Legibus*, 1718.
6. *De Religione*, 1719.
7. *De Vita*, 1720.
8. *De Morte*, 1721.
9. *De Resurrectione*, 1722.
10. *De Judicio*, 1723.
11. *De Gloria*, 1724.
12. *De Regno*, 1725.
13. *De Imperio*, 1726.
14. *De Potestate*, 1727.
15. *De Libertate*, 1728.
16. *De Felicitate*, 1729.
17. *De Misericordia*, 1730.
18. *De Pietate*, 1731.
19. *De Fide*, 1732.
20. *De Spes*, 1733.
21. *De Caritas*, 1734.
22. *De Concordia*, 1735.
23. *De Unitate*, 1736.
24. *De Veritate*, 1737.
25. *De Sapientia*, 1738.
26. *De Scientia*, 1739.
27. *De Virtute*, 1740.













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